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COMMENT OF THE DAY

A Retrospect

It is again the season of Christmas cards and "Cumshaw" and an appropriate occasion to look back on the events of the past year and contemplate briefly the prospects before us. 1953 has been a momentous year for Britain and the Empire, for the whole world, in fact. A new Queen has come to the throne, bringing with her charm and grace and a youthful vigour which, even within the limits of the present-day conception of monarchy, is an example, an inspiration—indeed, a welcome freshness—to her scattered realm. Not six months have passed since that memorable day of June 2, yet the young Queen and her gay and popular Consort are already receiving the acclaim of the Empire on their tour of the Dominions and Colonies. Another milestone was the conquest of Mount Everest after several attempts in the last 20 years. It has been a memorable year in other ways. The world will remember the death of Stalin, the truce in Korea and the June 17 riots in Eastern Germany—a manifestation of the spirit of liberty and freedom that totalitarianism will never conquer. The year ends with high hopes of a settlement of the Anglo-Egyptian negotiations on the Suez Canal and, with tolerance, patience and understanding on both sides, a good chance of a more lasting peace in Korea. There is hope and encouragement to be drawn too from the latest Russian reply to President Eisenhower's proposals for talks on the peaceful use of atomic power. But it would be folly to see, too soon, the vision of peace, good-will and prosperity ahead. India and Pakistan are no nearer a solution on Kashmir than they were a year ago. For the sixth Christmas the Armistice line still divides Israel and Jordan. Terrorists are still active in the forests of Kenya and the jungles of Malaya and the French and Vietnamese are still trying to rid Indo-China of the Ho Chi-minh rebels. In this enlightened age it is perhaps too much to expect peace on earth. But it is with no mercenary intent that we echo the hope that if what is called peace is to be our lot in the years ahead it may be accompanied by a resurgence of trade that has been diverted from us in the past year.

RENE COTY, NEW PRESIDENT OF FRANCE

Elected On The 13th Ballot

EMOTIONAL SCENES IN VERSAILLES CONGRESS

Versailles, Dec. 23. Amid tumultuous shouts of "Vive la France" and "Vive la Republique" coming with full fervour from the throats of weary members of the Congress of Versailles (the Council of the Republic and the National Assembly), who had been in session since last Thursday in the longest Presidential election in the history of the Republic, 71-year-old, greying but vigorous Independent Conservative candidate, M. Rene Coty, tonight was officially invested in the office of President of France after gaining an absolute majority of votes in the thirteenth ballot of a marathon and deeply significant series of ineffective attempts to find a successor to 69-year-old President Vincent Auriol.

There were deeply moving scenes at the historic Palace of Versailles as M. Coty's victory was officially announced by the President of Congress, M. Andre le Troquer. The whole assembly rose to its feet and sang the Marseillaise, ending the session with loud cheers as the successful Independent candidate, standing at the side of the President of Congress, officially became the second President of the Fourth Republic.

The victory of the Normandy-born Vice-President of the Council of the Republic came with dramatic suddenness after he had replaced M. Louis Jacquinot, Minister of Overseas Territories, in the twelfth ballot. Falling only eleven votes short of the absolute majority required for election, it became obvious that the political groups backing M. Coty had found a man who would end the weary sessions at Versailles.

And, in the thirteenth ballot, their hopes were realised when the Independent candidate, thrown into the election in a desperate attempt to find a "popular choice", emerged victorious with 477 votes, 51 votes above the absolute majority required.

Trailing second with 329 votes was the Socialist choice, M. Marcel Edmond Naegelen, who had been running close to the leaders in the week-long voting and who, strongly opposed to a European army, had had the full backing of the Communists.

Former Independent candidate, M. Jacquinot, who withdrew as an official candidate when it became obvious that he did not possess the full support of the parties endeavouring to overcome Socialist and Communist opposition, polled 21 votes.

Others received 44 votes. The total ballots were 871 with 13 invalid.

13TH BALLOT

In the twelfth ballot, which had produced M. Coty as the likely President, the voting had been: Coty (Independent) 431; Naegelen (Socialist) 333; Jacquinot (Independent) 26; others 92. Total votes were 848. The total majority required was 442.

Despite strong opposition from the Communist benches, the Congress decided to go straight into a thirteenth ballot and voting began immediately with the two main candidates still M. Coty and M. Naegelen. There were hostile Communist shouts amid the cheers as the result was made known, but this was the only disturbing note in the scenes of fervour that greeted the new President. There was also loud applause by the right and centre groups who had supported M. Coty, when the Socialists and Communists paid a tribute to M. Naegelen, who had stayed in the race until the end.

Immediately after the cheers had died down, the President of Congress solemnly invested M. Coty in France's highest office. In doing so, he paid a moving tribute to outgoing President Vincent Auriol and lauded his courage, intelligence and his devotion to the cause of the Republic.

He expressed the thanks of the French nation to President Auriol and Madame Auriol, a tribute in which the newly-elected President Coty joined. Replying to M. le Troquer, Coty said that the burden he was assuming was all the greater because of the brilliant manner in which President Auriol had acquitted himself. As the new President, and on

behalf of the French nation, he expressed gratitude to M. and Madame Auriol at the end of their seven-year term.

The French Premier, M. Joseph Laniel, who, as an Independent, had led all ballots from the second until his withdrawal, joined in the tribute to the new President and, in a solemn speech, stated: "I am certain that we have entrusted into firm hands the destiny of France and of the Republic."

Replying, President Coty said that he would endeavour to be the President of all true Frenchmen and of all Frenchmen of the French Union. He ended by thanking the Congress of Versailles for the confidence they had placed in him.

Republican Guards, who had waited patiently at Versailles since last Thursday to salute and protect the new President, sprang to attention tonight and presented arms to the new chief of state as, accompanied by the Premier and the President of the Congress, President Coty led the members of Congress in solemn procession from the historic palace.

It was learned here tonight that President Coty will call on President Vincent Auriol at the Presidential residence, the Elysees Palace, tomorrow morning. The Presidential procession from Versailles to Paris is due to begin at 9.45 GMT tomorrow. —France-Press.

END HK VISIT

His Excellency the Governor of Macao, Rear-Admiral Joaquim Marques Esparteiro, accompanied by Mrs. Esparteiro, left Hong-kong after a brief visit to return to Macao this morning. At Queen's Pier to see them off were H.E. Sir Alexander Grantham and Lady Grantham.



THOUSANDS TREK TO BETHLEHEM

Bethlehem, Dec. 23. Thousands of Christians trekked to this birthplace of Jesus Christ today in the biggest Christmas pilgrimage since the war began in Palestine.

They came by car, by foot and on horseback, by commercial airliner and chartered plane to attend Christmas services in this land which still is at war with Israel.

By tomorrow, 91 chartered planes will have brought visitors here for Christmas services, in addition to the normal four planes a day from Jerusalem.

More pilgrims are coming by car and on foot. In addition some 1,700 Arab Christian inhabitants of Israel will trek to Jordan tomorrow through the Mandelbaum gate to attend services in Bethlehem. The total number of pilgrims is estimated at more than 4,000, with an additional 1,000 coming to town from nearby regions. The only Protestant service in Bethlehem tomorrow will be held by the Young Men's Christian Association in the field of the Shepherds on the outskirts of town. —United Press.

ON PAYROLL UNTIL JAN. 22

Washington, Dec. 23. United States prisoners of war in Korea who have embraced Communism will remain on the Army's payroll until January 22—the last day on which they can elect to be repatriated—the Defence Department said today. No decision has yet been taken on what will be done then. A spokesman said the soldiers could be kept on "open service" as at present with their pay accumulating, discharged as "undesirables" or posted as deserters. —Reuter.

Beria Executed By Firing Squad

Moscow, Dec. 23. Lavrenti Beria, former Soviet Minister of the Interior and chief of Russia's dreaded secret police, was executed by a firing squad today after being found guilty of treason against the Soviet Union and the Communist Party, the official government organ, Isvestia announced in bold type this morning.

Dying with Beria, who fell from grace after the death of Stalin and the assumption of power by the present Premier, Georgi Malenkov, were his six accomplices, found guilty with him of treasonable activities.

They included V. N. Morokhov, who was dismissed from his post of Minister of State Control; Vasily Dekanozov, former Director of a section of the NKVD (Secret Police) and recently Minister of the Interior of Georgia; V. G. Kabulov, former Deputy to the People's Commissar of Internal Affairs in Georgia and, at the time of his arrest, Deputy to the Minister of Security in the Soviet Union as well as Vice-Minister of Internal Affairs; Serge Goglidze, former Commissar of Internal Affairs in Georgia and more recently a director of a section of the Ministry of the Interior; P. Machik, former director of a section of the NKVD and recently Minister of the Interior in the Ukraine; and N. Vlodzimirek, former director of the Investigation Section of the Ministry of the Interior.

All had pleaded guilty to the charges against them. Isvestia said that sentences had been confirmed by a court-martial presided over by Marshal Koniev. Confiscation of all their property was ordered by the court martial. —France-Press.

Spies Sentenced

Vienna, Dec. 23. Two Czechs were sentenced to death, one to life imprisonment and 22 others to prison terms ranging from six to 20 years for espionage activity by the Czech Supreme Court, Prague Radio reported today.

The 25 Czechs were tried before the "military collegium" of the Supreme Court, the broadcast said. —United Press.

They're all set to take part in Operation Reindeer, but if Santa Claus decides to hand over the reins you'll know why, for above you see three very good reasons.

Quake Hits Colombia

Bogota, Dec. 23. A heavy earthquake struck Southern Colombia along the border of Ecuador around midnight and first official reports said that many persons were injured and that damage was widespread.

Nariño State Governor Sergio Antonio Ruano reported to the Interior Ministry here that almost every community in the State suffered from the quake, especially the town of Guicallitas "where there are many injured and destruction was heavy."

Governor Ruano said that relief parties were rushed to the stricken area but their progress was hindered by blocked highways and disrupted communications.

Thus far it has been impossible to determine the number of casualties, Governor Ruano reported. —United Press.

International Labour Camp

Nicosia, Cyprus, Dec. 23. The United Nations will set up an international labour camp in the Paphos district of Cyprus, which was badly shaken by last September's earthquakes, it was learned here.

The camp to begin after Christmas, will help with relief and reconstruction work in the area. Decision to start the camp was taken by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation's central committee in Paris. The committee also plans to make Cyprus the centre for UNESCO's educational activities in the Middle East. —Reuter.

To Our Readers

The Editor and staff of the China Mail join in extending to their readers the compliments of the season.

London Fog Lifts

But Is Expected To Return

London, Dec. 23. Thick fog, which prevented planes from Tokyo and other world centres from landing or taking off at London airport, cleared this afternoon and flights were once more on schedule. But there were warnings that it would return tonight.

Today was marked by delays of several hours for passengers seeking to fly from Britain's fog for continental Christmas in tourist resorts.

Planes from Montreal, Nairobi and Tokyo were circling the airport at one time during the day. Flights from Brussels and Amsterdam were diverted to Blackbushe, in Surrey.

About 100 passengers were unable to get away from London airport—not because of fog, but due to a strike at French airports. They were given the choice of travelling by boat, train or of flying to Brussels and taking the train from there.

Several airlines took off for Paris, intending to land without radio. The larger long distance planes had to wait however. Flights to Sydney, Singapore, Johannesburg, New York, Tokyo, Nairobi and Lagos were delayed. —Reuter.

No Final Stand Yet Taken

Washington, Dec. 23. A State Department spokesman said today that the United States Government had not yet taken a final stand concerning the Soviet reply to a request for clarification on President Dwight Eisenhower's recent atomic proposals.

It was understood that the Soviet statement was being closely studied at the State Department. Informed sources indicated that the clarification sought by the Soviet Government might be transmitted through normal diplomatic channels. —France Press.

How not to give a Tennis Party

Bad hosts are born and not made; not everyone can make a failure of a tennis party. Nevertheless there are certain observances which may be relied upon to reduce the chances of success.



For instance, do not roll the court before the guests arrive. Let them do it themselves while you maintain a flow of good-humoured banter.



Do not mend the holes in the wire-netting. Searching for balls in the middle of a ding-dong game is a great fermenter of temper.

AND ABOVE ALL, do not on any account provide long ice-cold drinks of Rose's Lime Juice for between-the-sets refreshment. If the imperfect hits were to be followed by character this cardinal rule of hospitality, the sharp and utterly satisfying taste of Nature's most thirst-quenching drink could not fail to produce contentment. The party would be a success.



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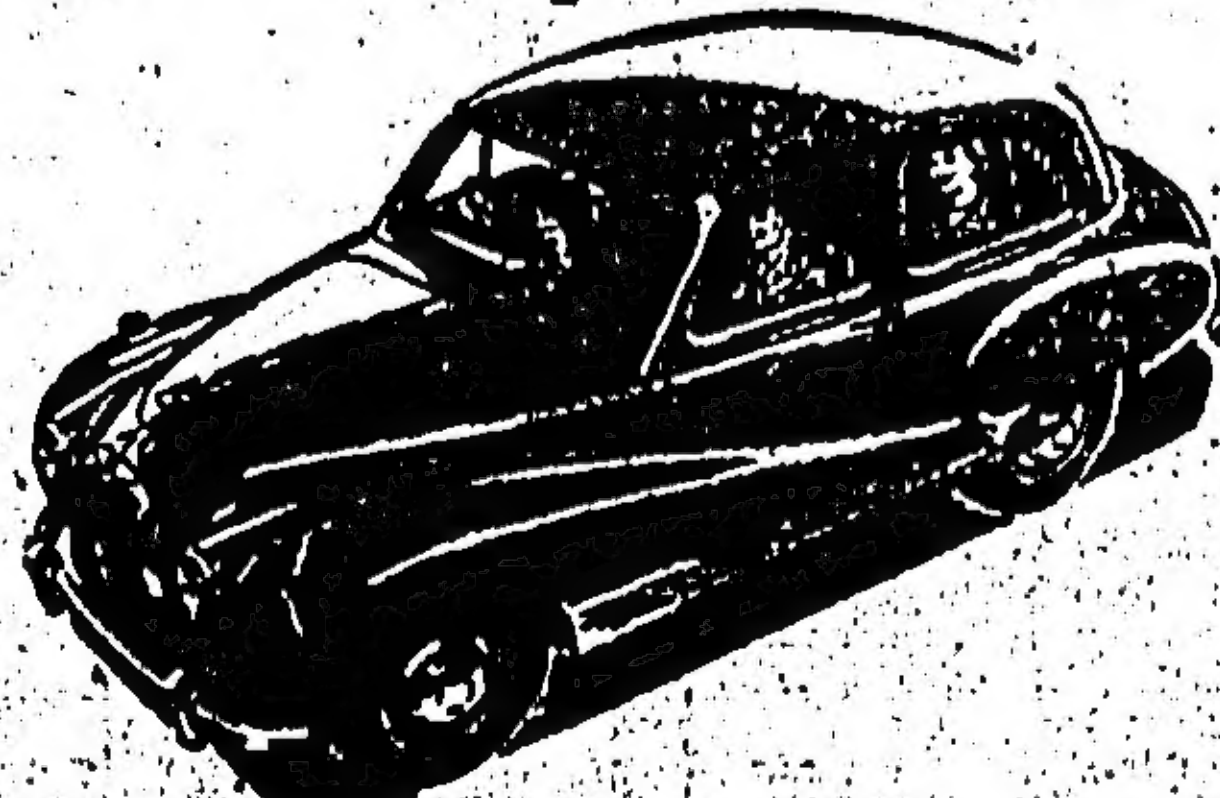
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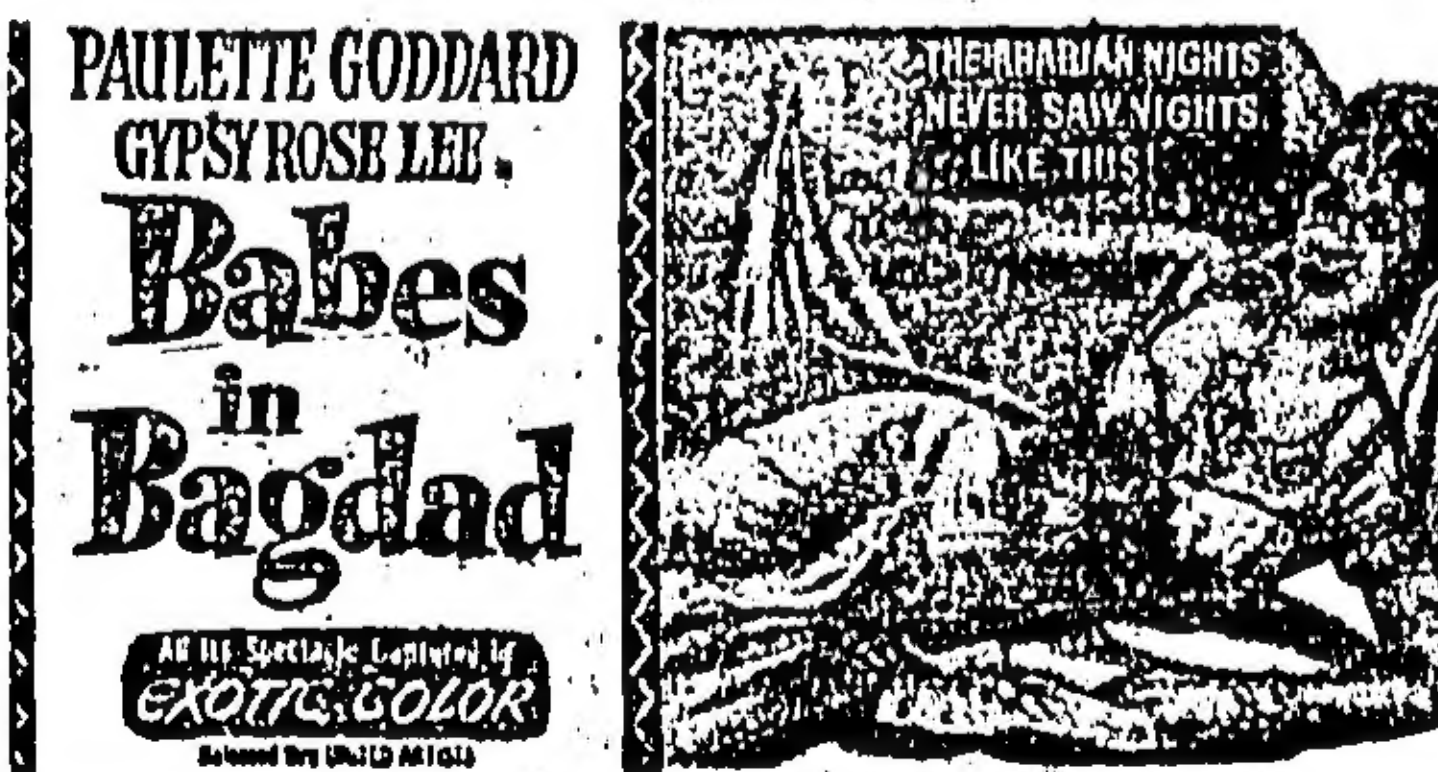
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FILMS—CURRENT AND COMING

By MARGARET BRUCE



Sir Laurence Olivier has an uneasy seat and an unsteady baritone in "The Beggar's Opera," says Margaret Bruce.

Thompson, which has also appeared both on stage and screen as "Rain".

Joan Crawford and Tallulah Bankhead have both played the part of Sadie in their time. I'll never know what it is in this part that appeals so much to actresses. If the desire is to show how "bad" one can be (with the dramatic possibilities thus provided), surely Miss Hayworth would have made a better job of "SALOME". But, of course, Sadie has a heart of gold, which may influence fan mail. Her business is, in fact, only body deep.

Anyway, we are to see a dance and hear four songs sung in the attractive Hayworth manner, and I am convinced that she can really act. Perhaps we will see it here.

Certainly Mr. Ferrer can be relied upon to give a good performance. They are supported by Aldo Ray—you have recently seen him in the Jane Wyman film "LET'S DO IT AGAIN". The tropical heat is provided almost exclusively by Miss Hayworth.

FINGERS CROSSED

When the CAPITOL and LIBERTY finish with "THE BAND WAGON," their gay ram-bunctious musical, they really are this time (they say) bringing along "JULIUS CAESAR". I have already reviewed this fine film in detail, but I would like to remind you not to miss it. It has been very well produced into a spectacular drama, but without losing any of the weight of Shakespeare.

In my opinion two performers stand out far enough to dwarf the others. I refer to James Mason, a strong Brutus, and Marlon Brando as Anthony. It is Mason's film, all told, with the exception of Anthony's quality which, even though gruffly spoken, has a force I have never noticed before. Shakespeare lovers will be able to accept this film version enthusiastically, but for those unfamiliar with the play I

seems to be slightly at a loss, and gives merely an ordinary reasonable performance. It seems a pity to waste his unusual talents, but here it is his career and not this fine film which is affected. All who admired "THE CRUEL SEA" should make a point of seeing the "MALTA STORY".

"THE ROBE" opened at the ROXY and BROADWAY last night but up to the time of writing it has not been available for me to see. However, the managements hope to keep it on for a month, so there will be plenty of time.

Opinions vary enormously amongst the London critics, and apart from the importance of the film as a screen play, a tremendous amount of interest has naturally been levelled at its introduction of Cinemascope. For it is the first complete film to be made in the process.

You might be interested to know that the concave screen used is two and a half times as wide as it is high, and this curve and width together give a feeling of depth to the picture, but it is far from having a 3D quality.

"THE ROBE" is not stereoscopic then, thank Heaven, but it is stereophonic, which means that the voices don't come from a fixed point but from the appropriate side of the screen—an effect which I personally find distracting.

I read a comment by Darryl Zanuck, 20th Century Fox Production Manager, the other day. He says "Hollywood will stand or fall on the success of Cinemascope." May I add my comment that this is absurd. Hollywood, together with other film makers, will stand or fall on the value and worth of the actual films that they produce in this new medium.

More and more news of the 1954 good resolutions of film companies comes creeping through. There are many good British movies waiting for us—mainly released through The J. Arthur Rank Organisation.

Early in January we will be able to see "GENEVIEVE". This is a literally bone-deep comedy in colour on the Queen's Highway. As you know, once a year, a long line of polished, pampered and peppery old cars roll from London to Brighton. It's quite an event in the lives of their proud owners. But a nightmare to the wives and girl friends.

So here is the eternal triangle with a new twist. Car-crazy John Gregson, Dinah Sheridan and Genevieve—the auto swifter personality, aided and abetted by lovely Kay Kendall and Kenneth More. When I tell you that it is the work of the same director and producer as "PASSPORT TO PIMLICO," you'll be able to guess what fun is in store for you.

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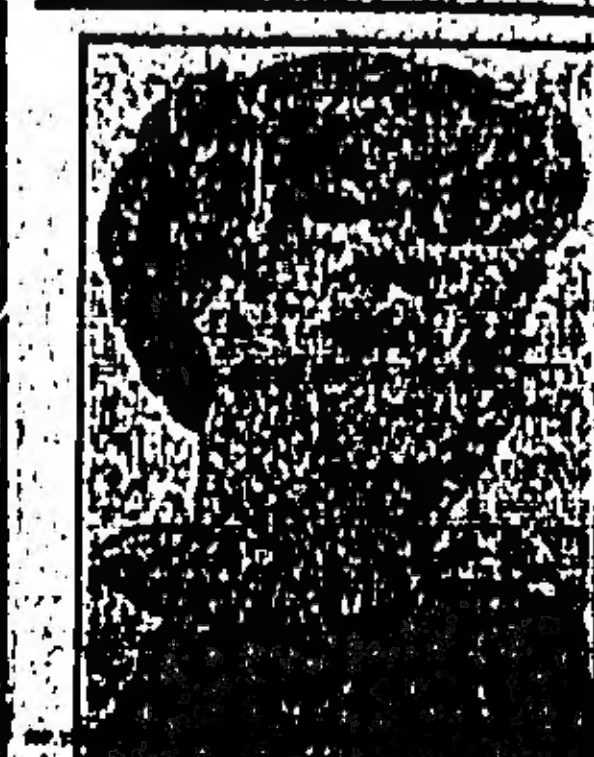
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The Story Behind A Famous Christmas Carol

Oberndorf, Austria.
The great Christmas carol "Silent Night" was written because mice ate the bellows of the church organ here 135 years ago.

The awful discovery was made two nights before Christmas in 1818 when the parish priest and the organist went to the church to rehearse. The only noise from the organ was hoarse puffing.

The two men trudged homeward in despair because there would be no Christmas music for the parishioners. It was bitterly cold. An all-day blizzard had choked the narrow streets with snow.

As the pair pushed their way through drifts, the wind suddenly died. The sky cleared and the village was bathed in starlight.

The 26-year-old priest, Father Josef Mohr, raised his eyes and exclaimed: "That 'Silent Night, Holy Night.' Then he added: 'All is calm, all is bright.'"

Legend says that the organist, schoolmaster Franz Xavier Gruber, gripped the priest's arm and exclaimed: "That would make a fine Christmas carol."

Two men went straight to Gruber's home, brewed strong coffee to keep themselves awake, and spent the rest of the night working out the verses and the melody of what was to become the most beloved of all Christmas hymns.

When the villagers gathered at little St. Nicholas Church on Christmas Eve to celebrate the birth of Christ, Father Mohr told them the bad news about the organ—but added that he and Gruber had a musical surprise to offset the disappointment.

Then the priest and the organist led the congregation in the first singing of "Silent Night" accompanied by a 12-string peasant guitar.

The hymn became a village favourite.

Baroness carried it down the Salzach River to other Austrian communities.

PASSED ON
A travelling organ repairman who came to fix the bellows copied down the words and music and passed them to churches in other parts of Europe.

After its performance at a concert at Leipzig, Germany, in 1831, the carol spread rapidly throughout the world.

Father Mohr died in the Alps in 1848, so poor he could not leave enough money to pay for his burial. His friend Gruber died in obscurity 15 years later.

Floods wrecked Oberndorf at the turn of the century, destroying St. Nicholas Church, and a new village was built farther down the Salzach Valley.

But in 1937, a "Silent Night" Chapel was built on the site of the old church with funds donated by music lovers throughout the world.

In the little chapel, the cherished carol will be sung again this Christmas Eve as the people of Oberndorf have sung it each year since 1818.

to the accompaniment of a peasant guitar.—United Press.

SANTA CLAUS BAN CAUSES INDIGNATION

Dunn, N. Carolina.

Santa Claus has been barred from the annual Christmas parade here and townsfolk seethed despite a compromise that would let St. Nick watch from the sidelines as a guest of honour.

The ministerial committee in charge of arrangements touched off a withering wave of protest when it disclosed plans restricting the parade to a series of floats depicting religious events.

Mayor Ralph E. Hanna said the issue was "too hot for one to comment on."

Magistrate Arthur Wilborn called it "the most damnable thing I have ever heard of in my whole life."

Mrs. H. P. Byrd, a Sunday school superintendent said, "It literally makes me sick."

Mrs. Jule T. Mann said she telephoned her pastor in protest and "he talked real rude to me" but she said he later called back and apologized.

Mrs. J. W. Temple, chairman of a committee building a church float said she didn't know whether the group would continue work.

City solicitor J. Shepard Bryan, with his grandchildren in mind commented "we have got to get Santa Claus back in that parade."

Merchants who finance the annual event asked the ministerial association to work out a compromise plan to smooth down the aroused citizens.

Chairman Charles Hildreth explained Santa Claus would arrive about an hour ahead of the parade and ride through the streets on a fire engine.

Then he'll take a seat as guest of honour in a reviewing stand at the sidelines.

Most people agreed the compromise might work but many still clamoured for Santa Claus to be in the parade.

The Rev. Ernest P. Russell, chairman of the Ministerial Committee, quickly accepted the compromise.

But the association stood its ground on the ban, arguing that "to have Santa Claus coming at the end of the parade would give the impression that the primary purpose of Christ's coming was so that we could have Santa Claus."

The ministers said "it is not that any of the ministers have anything against old St. Nick... what the ministers have been asked to do by the merchants is to put Christ back into Christmas."—United Press.

The Master Stroke

New York.
City prison officials admitted recently they had been duped by a confidence man pulling what was probably the master stroke of his career.

The man, being held on grand larceny charges, walked out of gaol posing as another prisoner who was to be released on bail.

The Department of Correction identified the slick prisoner as James Briggs, 39, of Brooklyn, who was in the "New Tombs" prison awaiting hearing on fugitive warrants charging him with grand larceny in New Jersey and Michigan.

Warden Herman J. Ruthazer said a bondsman posted \$500 bail recently for Herbert Brown, 21, a burglary suspect who was sharing a cell with Briggs. A gaoler went to get Brown and found one asleep and the other awake. The one who was awake said he was Brown.

An hour later Briggs—not Brown—went free.—United Press.

Disgruntled E. German Christmas Shoppers

Berlin.

A U.S.-High Commission analysis of East German Christmas presents shows that they include:

"Coats which lose their shape, shoes which split up the side, watches and clocks which refuse to run, radios, for which no tubes can be obtained, shirts in gaudy and pygmy sizes, electric hearing pads which catch fire, bicycle tubes with built-in leaks, and toys which fall apart the first time they are used."

A study made by the High Commission (Berlin element) Public Affairs Division of complaints from consumers published in that Soviet-licensed press and collected from refugees shows that the Christmas spirit of Soviet zone residents will have to stand the test of paying exorbitant prices for inferior goods, which are probably not the sort of thing the buyer wanted in the first place," the report stated.

"But gifts and receivers of gifts may take some comfort in the expectation that the goods will break or become unusable anyway," it said.

COMPLAINTS
Here are a few of the complaints listed by disgruntled Soviet zone Christmas shoppers:

1.—Rayon socks, where the whole sole fell out after a few days.

2.—Shoes which came apart at the upper and transferred their colour to the customers' stockings. Polishers' choppers also complained about the fit—"one can hardly stand erect for the pain."

3.—Stove pipes, marked size 11, but provided only with size 13 joints.

4.—A children's coat for a 10-year-old girl which "looks like a sack bag in ugly colour, and the material is terrible. The coat has stretched in a strange way, and the front and back are now longer than the sides."

5.—A child's toy train which one Soviet zone newspaper complained had "a guaranteed life of five minutes."

Indication of the quality of Soviet zone goods was contained in the Berliner Zeitung recently, which complained that one complete factory shipment of 600 pairs of trousers, 122 overcoats and 157 suits had "pockets unevenly sewed on, sleeves the wrong shape, collars and seams improperly done, and in general, an unsatisfactory cut."

Such suits, made of ersatz wool, cost 250-300 marks.—United Press.

ONCE BITTEN!
Calcutta.

Members of the Legislature of Sikkim State in the remote Himalayas were invited to see a film in the first movie theatre ever opened in Gangtok, the capital.

They promptly introduced a resolution in the legislature calling for the film to be closed for 10 years as a "menace to innocent Himalayan youth."

—United Press.

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RKO Radio presents
Walt Disney's Full-Length feature
"SO DEAR TO MY HEART"
in Technicolor

— SATURDAY —
Paramount presents
Dean Martin & Jerry Lewis in
"AT WAR WITH ARMY"

— SUNDAY —
RKO Radio presents

Walt Disney's Colour Cartoon Programme
At Reduced Prices: \$1.00 & \$1.50

GREAT WORLD

SPECIAL MORNING
SHOWS
At 12.30 a.m.

— TO-MORROW —
Warner Bros. presents
ALL COLOUR CARTOON PROGRAMME

— SATURDAY —
20th Century Fox presents
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WHEN Princess Margaret, with a party of four, went to the Golders Green Hippodrome to see Ralph Reader's "Gang Show," she joined in singing with the audience and clapped every item. Afterwards, she went backstage, and is pictured here talking with members of the cast. (Express)



MIKE HAWTHORN, with the Wakefield Trophy and Gold Star, at the British Racing Drivers' Club ball at the Dorchester, London. He won the Gold Star as champion British racing driver of the year, and the Wakefield Trophy—shared with Ken Wharton—for the fastest lap at Silverstone by a British driver during the season. (Express)



FRENCH dancers Leslie Caron and Roland Petit in one of the scenes from "The Sleeping Beauty," which is being staged at the Stoll Theatre, London. Roland Petit has created a modern variant of this ballet especially for Miss Caron, who jumped to prominence in the films, "An American in Paris" and "Lili." (Express)



MISS Sylvia Gregg, 23, of Malda Vale, donned a frogman suit and joined others similarly equipped in an underwater search of the Grand Union Canal at Paddington for six-year-old Teddy Willingdale, missing from his home in Paddington. (Express)



HERE is five-year-old Vincent Winter from Aberdeen, Scotland, who is being hailed as the biggest child star discovery since Shirley Temple. When "The Kidnappers," the film in which he stars, was shown at a London cinema for the first time the other day, the audience cheered at the end of the show. (Express)



MRS Charles Clore, wife of the London financier (right), greeting Lady Karimnaki (left) at the Dorchester dinner and dance organised by the St John's Wood Charity Committee in aid of the Westminster Abbey restoration fund. An after-dinner auction raised £3,000. (Express)



I prefer
NESTLÉ'S



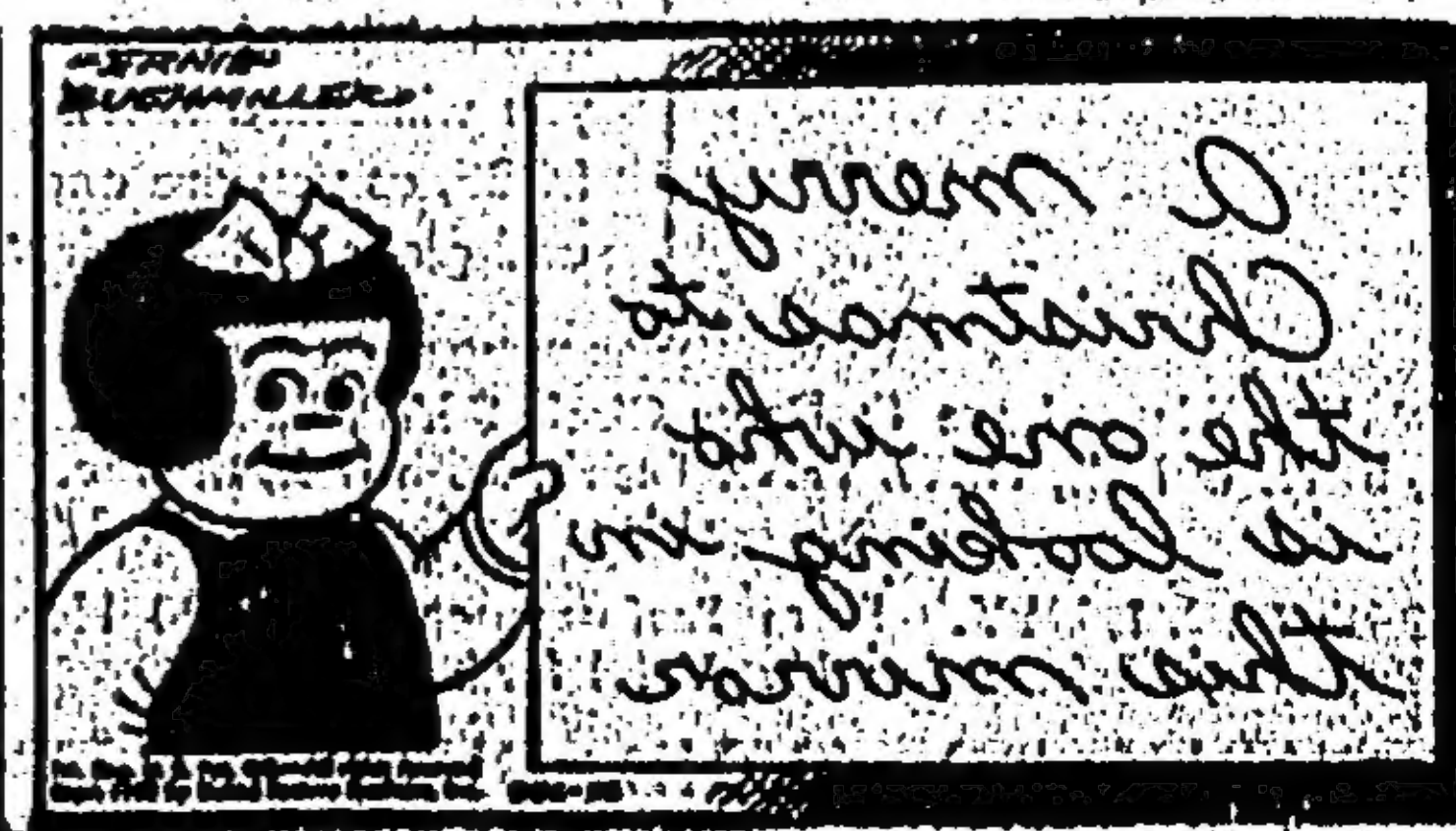
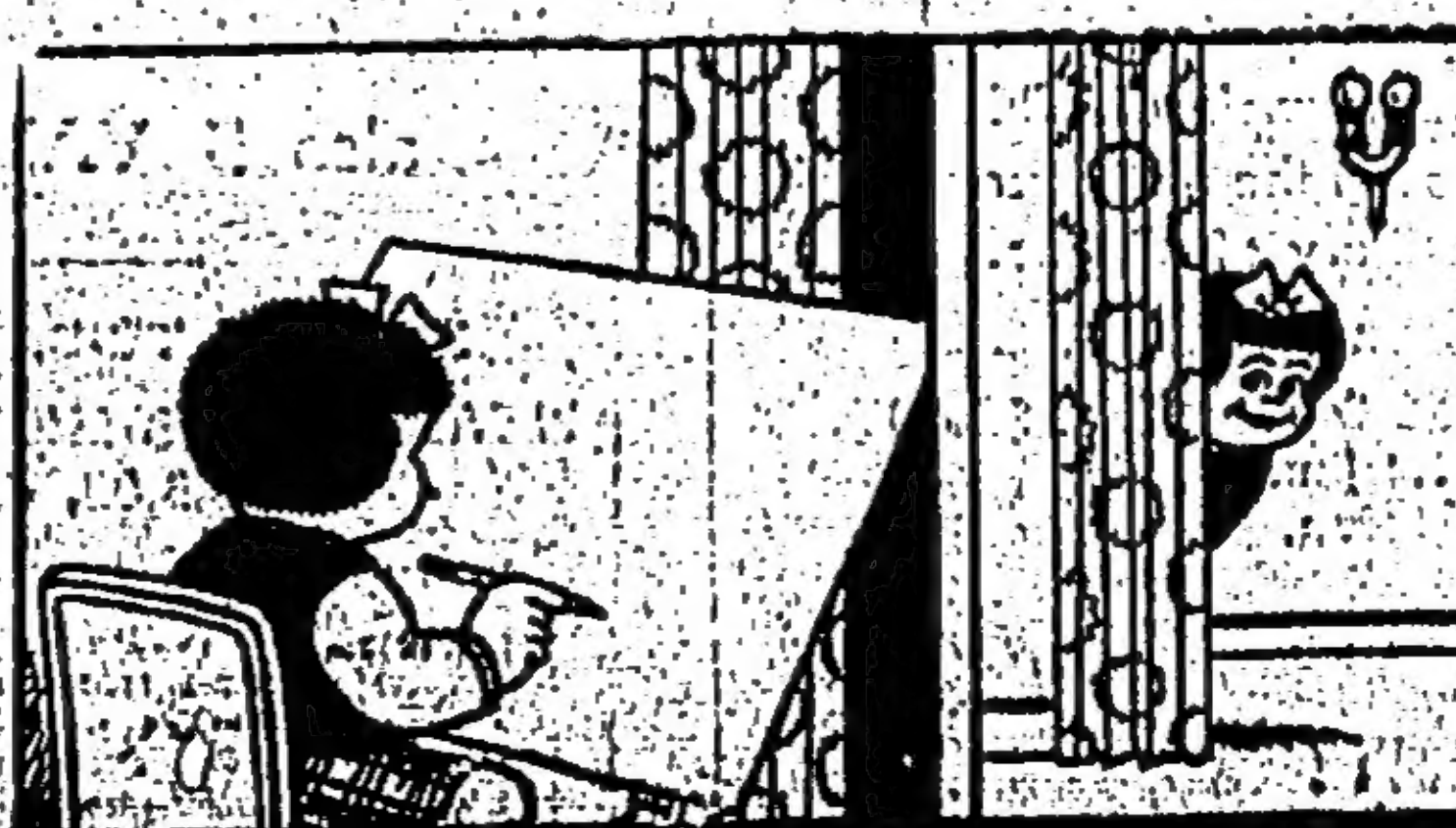
TWENTY minutes after an out of work Cockney imitated Charlie Chaplin in television's "Shop Window," he was offered a month's contract in a West End hotel cabaret. Lucky Ronnie Collins (pictured here) getting ready for his four-minute show. (Express)



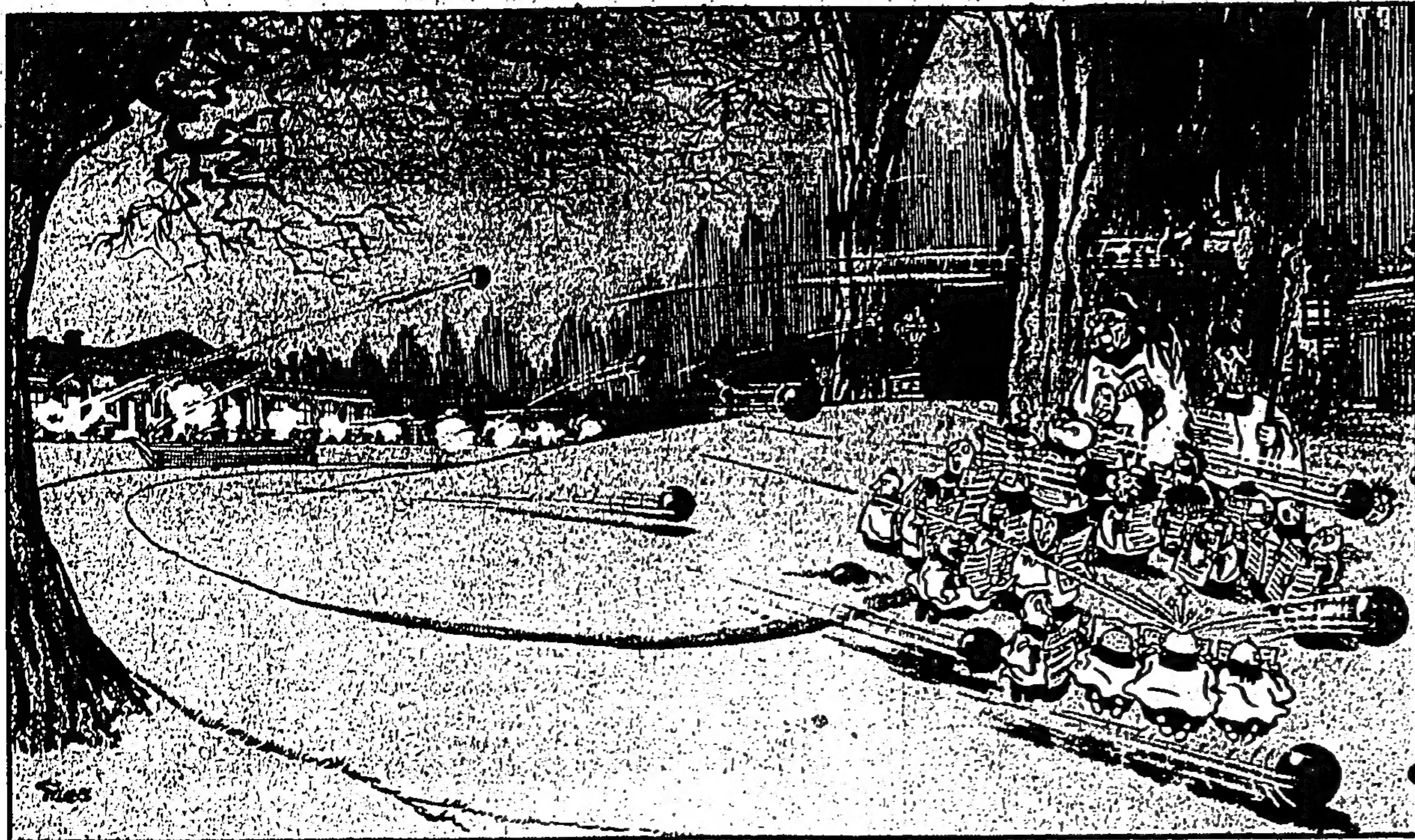
THIS stone cross, being handed by Major E. G. Harding to the Rev. G. J. A. Eyans, Dean of Gloucester Cathedral, was carved by Lt-Col J. P. Carne, Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment, in a Korean prisoner of war camp. The cross was used by the men in camp for their Christmas service in 1951. (Express)

NANCY And The Others, Too

By Ernie Bushmiller



**DAIRY
BOX**
MILK
CHOCOLATES



"Somebody has got to get through and explain to his Lordship that we have not come to steal his turkey." London Express Service

TURNING BACK THE CHRISTMAS CLOCK

By A. J. FORREST

THE past looms richly over our Christmas festival. The genius of Charles Dickens may have enlivened the Christmas spirit; Prince Albert's German fondness for candlelit and tinselled Christmas trees may have been mirrored in countless homes. But the season's celebrations had their origin in medieval times and earlier.

Centuries before the Victorians trimmed the festive board, Christmas in England and other European countries was not only a Christian festival. It was a time of horseplay, of costly masques and revels, mummery plays and miracle plays; of hearty eating and a virility in the pursuit of outdoor pleasures seldom equalled today.

Henry VII initiated in England's royal circles the office of "Lord of Misrule." A courtier was appointed whose power was absolute throughout the twelve Christmas holy days. As Master of Revels, he organised burlesques, issued impudent and embarrassing orders, and conferred authority on the bashful for the amusement of princes, nobles and peasants alike.

A Lord of Misrule persisted as late as 1878 at Downside School. And a trace of the custom still lingers in a practice observed by the British Army. For on Christmas Day officers serve dinner to their men seated at table and exchange pleasantries with them.

LATE medieval England ate hard. Peacocks, swans, herons, cormorants, eels, lampreys, porpoise and even blackbirds and sparrows, prepared to spiced recipes, graced the main banquet.

What individuals might eat depended on their rank. Thus, in Henry VII's day, "conies par-broiled" were prescribed for a lord. A great lord, a Prince of the Blood Royal, might be treated to roasted red squirrel or to seven mackerels in a dish sweetened by "a drizzle" of fine sugar.

But "Peacock enkayll," or roasted peacock, fully dressed in its skin and plumes, headed the procession to the King's table. In preparing this royal bird, the chef first flayed off its skin, taking care not to soil its proud feathers, and then savoured the skin with ground cinnamon. After roasting the carcass and basting it with raw egg yolks, he then sewed the bird back into its skin, gilded the comb, and so presented his monarch. Much red ale and claret helped it down.

In the country, ladies of the Manor served their households with strange new fruits, such as oranges and lemons. Some of these delicacies tasted the

better for being "pirate wares," fished from the holds of captured Spanish, French and Italian merchantmen.

Tudor trenchermen, however, were refreshed by neither tea nor coffee. Nor were there, at the era's outset, potatoes, tomatoes, rhubarb, currants, pineapples or watermelons. And until one of Elizabeth's sea captains introduced three pipe-smoking red Indians to London, the comfort of tobacco was also unknown.

THE Continental habit of copious wine drinking to some extent bypassed "Merrile England." But beer! How prodigious a thirst it stirred and satisfied. The whole nation drank home-brewed ale, golden in hue and calm as an autumnal sunset. Tudor merrymaking, conscious of the need to keep their curves in generous shape, drank often a gullion a day. What may have been left in their tankards was sweeter.

As a child of six, Mary Tudor, half sister of Elizabeth I, spent her Christmas at Dilton on Thames accompanied by her own "Lord of Misrule." For the day's dinner, she sat down to a board laden with such of the age's artistic craving as a court pointer to better please her Royal Highness. As presents she received on New Year's Day gold mugs, silver snufflers, a gold pomander and what probably delighted her heart most of all, a rosemary tree hung with spangles of gold.

The highlight of her pleasure, however, was a mummery show full of horseplay and many buffettings, whose realities were enhanced by the play's properties. These consisted of "visors, coat armour, hats, gold foil, coney skins and tails for the mummerys, four dozen clattering staves, gunpowder, frankincense, ten dozen bells and one dozen morris coats to cover twelve men in their disguising." And, as a concession to the squeamish, devilry took place behind a curtain where one "player" slaughtered a calf with his sword.

THE age's very robustness preserved Christmas as an adult feast. Children were not yet its darlings. They had their own festival on St. Nicholas' Day. Then, at the more prominent schools and in cathedrals, a Boy Bishop, usually the sweetest-voiced chorister, was elected and enthroned. Afterwards he conducted a service, pronounced benedictions and preached a sermon which, if listened to with smiles by his schoolfellows, had at least to be received seriously by the Dean and his curate. The Boy's Bishop

reigned until Holy Innocent's Day. If he died, meantime, then he was buried with episcopal honours.

But Mass was celebrated by almost the entire population on Christmas Day. The people enjoyed carol singing, too, and all shades of society sang the rousing, homely choruses accompanied by the music of their spinets, virginals, pipes, tabors and flageolets. The Church Courts dealt summarily with anyone caught working that day or, for that matter, on any Sunday or Holy Day.

Oddly, Christmas was the one period of the year when card-playing was allowed. (Henry VII passed a statute forbidding it at all other periods.) The nobility gambled furiously. James IV of Scotland played cards with Princess Margaret, Henry VII's daughter, as part of his courtship in England. The game's excitement apparently thrilled him. For settling down to another card-playing session at Melrose on Christmas Eve, 1490, he first "borrowed" from his treasurer 35 uniforms, 11 French crowns, a duet, a squire and a leu, a sum of several hundred pounds by today's values.

ENTERTAINMENT was varied, though, around the fifteenth century.

Most of the craft guilds promoted a Christmas miracle play, based either on a Biblical story, then very little known to the people, or on some morality-inspired legend. The players rehearsed their parts very seriously and, as soon as they came on the stage, declared their identity as "I am Mary Magdalene," or "I am Herod."

They performed often the shattering of demons. For, to appease Holy Writ's dread realities, the portals of Hell appeared on most miracle play stages and, at crucial times, swung open for blue and red-painted devils to rush forth and seize the damned. After wards, to much backstage bawling of pots and pans, the "damned" played out their agonies amid the torments of hell-fire.

More peacefully, angels ascended and descended from heaven by real ladders set up on the stage. Wicked kings wore turbans and cursed in unknown tongues. Elizabeth herself, before the plays of Shakespeare arrived, revelled in these mysteries.

However, untroubled by any appreciable industry, so much richly afforded of great estates and crafts, England was pre-eminently outdoor, minded. So, at Christmas time, sporting enthusiasms broke loose. Nobles and peasants, delighted in falconry, though again a social scale determined who might fly particular breeds. Thus a King struck at game with a geraldton, but a prince was allowed only a falcon, gentle or ferocious, a

baron might carry a bastard, a squire a linner. For the yeoman there was the goshawk, a sparrow hawk for the priest, merlin for ladies, and musket for "the holy water clerk."

Henry VIII, a muscular athlete in his youth, led the country in his lust for vigorous sports and exercises. He wrestled with reputed champions, waging on the outcome, built a cockpit in Whitehall, encouraged bowls, tennis and deer-hunting, and was an uncommonly skilful archer. He expected all his subjects to excel as long bowmen and throughout their Christmas tournaments, forbade men of twenty-four and over to shoot at targets under 220 yards.

MEANTIME, outside England, an adventurous Spaniard, Pedro Nino, was busy trading with Indians on the coast of Cumana, North of Venezuela. In 1499, according to records discovered in the Royal Palace's library, Madrid, he bought wild turkeys from them at the price of four beads a bird. Next year, his expedition sailed back to Spain.

Although no mention is made of it, there seems the strongest likelihood that he shipped back with him some specimens of these birds. Perhaps the first succulence was nothing astonishing for the turkey was then a flat-breasted, long-combed, lanky-legged wild bird and obviously coarse-fleshed. But as novelties they would surely convince doubters of his travels in a new continent.

Shortly afterwards the breed spread from Spain to other European countries. The French seemed mystified as to its source of origin. They named it "Coc d'Inde" (Cock of India), a name that ultimately emerged as "dindon."

In England, the turkey's earliest mention occurs in an order issued by Archbishop Crammer in 1541. After describing it as one of "the greater fowles," he then forbade ecclesiasts to serve more than "one dish of turkey cocks" at any state banquet, ceremonial occasion or in their private households. The female was too precious even for cooking.

TRADITION salutes Henry VIII as the first English sovereign to sample turkey, but James I gave the bird its pre-eminent place on our Yuletide tables.

James I detested pork as much as his better known aversions, tobacco and witches. The mere sight of a pig's head upset his stomach. Not so the newly introduced dish of bow tender, fat-breasted turkey cocks. Their deliciousness lessened his palate and, not long afterwards, thousands of his subjects

agreed that in one respect their Scottish-bred king had good taste.

It cannot be claimed, however, that the turkey helped to create the British Empire. True, the Pilgrim Fathers gave the bird enormous prestige. To celebrate their first year's settlement in New England, they sat down to a Thanksgiving meal of turkey, and eeked it but plentifully with cranberries, pumpkins and oysters. Thus, a national custom emerged.

It was the appearance of the common herring on the Tudor festive board that had a profound bearing over England's future. It awoke and symbolised the nation's instinct for deep sea fishing. Hitherto, English fishers had been basically inshore-men. Now, lured by the herring's migrations, and the growing taste for it at home, especially when washed down with draughts of "dragon's milk," a particularly strong ale, they fished it with skill and industry, not in single ships, but in fleets.

Conveniently, perhaps providentially, vast shoals of herring poured out of the Baltic and laced, in their silvery streams, the storm-beaten waters of England's north and east coasts.

As the public's appetite sharpened, so England's fishing fleets grew in numbers and resource. This paved the way, indisputably, for the first surge of colonial expansion under Elizabeth I. For here, among the nation's hardy fishing industry, was a reserve of seafaring skill, gained by much toil over the fisher's nets in all weathers, and ripe for diversion to new enterprises. The Queen's sea captains, audacious freebooters mostly, used it well.

How little those long forgotten Christmas revellers in Merrile England ever dreamed that by their choice of good fare, they were influencing the destinies of new continents!

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WASING a Rolex Oyster Perpetual, a professor of Milan University went for a swim off Capri. But the strap-buckle was loose, and his watch broke from his wrist, and sank to the bottom.

Without much hope, the professor asked some divers, working nearby, to keep an eye open for his watch. Surprisingly, seven days later, they actually found it, and it was still keeping perfect time.

It is not really so incredible. For this superb watch, completely protected from water and sand by the famous Oyster waterproof case, is automatically wound by the Perpetual "rotor" mechanism—another Rolex invention. It is in its ability to stay accurate under such incredible tests of endurance that Rolex watches prove their immunity from the more normal ills that beset an ordinary watch.



After seven days beneath the sea, a Rolex Oyster Perpetual, brought up by divers, was found to be still showing the right time! (The original letter of Professor Ugoletti can be inspected at the Rolex office, 18 rue du Marché, Geneva.)

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STARTING TO-JAY

HOW TO LIVE TO BE 100

"ACCORDING to my book of statistics, you will die at the age of 89." That is what an insurance man might have said to the bouncing baby boy that was born to Mr. and Mrs. T. Micklem one day in November 1853.

The insurance man was right with his figures—statistics show that a child born in 1853 should have died in 1892. But how wrong, wrong was the insurance man in fact.

Last month that bouncing baby boy—now white-haired Mr. NATHANIEL MICKLEM, 100, celebrated his 100th birthday. And he looks to be going on to the lighting of more birthday candles yet.

Unique the case of Mr. Micklem, you say? Never believe it. He is only one of an army of centenarians. The last census showed nearly five thousand of the population were on or near the century mark.

And there are many, many thousands, who although not yet in the final lap for the century, are approaching it. Approaching it not in a wheelchair—but with full health, vigour and mental clarity.

Take a look at some of them. At still very active VISCOUNT SIMON, for example.

On his eightieth birthday this year he quoted Bismarck: "The first eighty years of a man's life are the best." Then he declared: "I intend, henceforth, to prove that Bismarck is wrong."

At the House of Lords, Lord Simon expounded his doctrine of life. He handed over a pamphlet he has just published on The Status of Mr. Gladstone.

It contained Lord Simon's essential dictum on how to live: "Every public man of the first rank needs what the Greeks called a periphrasis—some secondary interest which can occupy his mind and give it refreshment."

And it listed some of the outside interests of famous statesmen: Winston Churchill, painting; Lord Salisbury (the grandfather of the present Lord Salisbury), chemistry; Bonar Law, chess; Joseph Chamberlain, orchids; Neville Chamberlain, the habits of birds and fishing; and the music of Beethoven.

FROM the board-rooms of big business this order is being issued: "Get out and sell." The campaign called here "soured-up selling" has begun. Its purpose is to arrest decline in industry and commerce.

Tens of millions of dollars are to be spent on high-pressure advertising promotion and publicity to beat the slump.

I dined the other night with a group of bankers and business men, to whom I put the question: "Is there going to be a recession?"

Mr. Frank Wood, one-time president of the American Bank Note Company, told me: "Don't fool yourself. Recession is here now and American business has mobilised to lick it."

Production down

WALL STREET is not deluded itself, nor are Detroit and Pittsburgh. The simple fact is that production of nearly everything is down from the peak.

The production of iron and steel is off 11.3 percent, of other metals 11.8 percent, of machinery 4.9 percent, of textiles 20.3 percent, of manufactured goods 3 percent, of chemicals 3.1 percent, of motorcars 11.5 percent, of lumber 12.7 percent, of rubber 12.7 percent, of furniture 7.8 percent, of petroleum 8.3 percent.

Quite a list!

Only the paper industry and its products remain at pinnacles of production, and newpapers say they cannot keep (Sunday



What is the future for Little Willy? His chances of reaching his century are better than they have ever been. If he had been born in 1853, he would have died at 89. But he is lucky. Born today, he has a 50 percent chance of living to 100. By the time they are 50, say the insurance people, men can hope to live to 72, women to 76. But those who follow the health rules can do better than that...

There is no doubt of Lord Simon's own subscription to this approach to old age. He preserves his mental energies by learning Shakespeare by heart.

Gin... every day

FROM law and politics, turn now to the stage. Is there magic in the footlights that helps men and women to scorn the advance of age?

Last month actor A. E. MATTHEWS celebrated his 84th birthday—by going riding. Acting is still his life—and he is making more money by it today than ever before in his 65 years on the stage.

He smokes 30 cigarettes a day. He drinks a regular quota of about half a bottle of gin daily.

Tiring role

THEN there is actress HELEN HAYE, 79, she must be one of the sprightliest, spriest women of the age in London. Her off-stage recreations are regular golf—and playing bridge. She smokes a cigarette and talks with snappy, alert gestures

back on the insults that were being flung at him, particularly in Europe. And took at Vice-President Nixon and the spectacular success of his tour of Asia.

By taking on the role of crusader for world peace—and the cloak seems to fit—Eisenhower has captured the American stage. By comparison Senator McCarthy's bid for leadership appears vulgar posturing.

Some Americans tell me that Ike's galvanic gesture of flying from the Big Three conference to speak at the U.N. Forum blacked-out Bernada and put Sir Winston Churchill in the wings. I doubt that.

Under scrutiny

ANYWAY, the Democrats, who thought the Republicans were coming apart, are discredited by the resurgence of the Administration. And now they are hitting out recklessly.

Anglo-American relations are coming into closer scrutiny since the Eisenhower speech; but why does the Henry Luce Press always seem to try to hamper and harm rather than aid the partnership?

The current issue of Time magazine has a map of the Middle East marked "Crucial." It is titled "Decide or Fail!" which asks: "Can Britain succeed where all others have failed?" The answer, of course, is "Yes."

I have always had the impression that the Luce, Henry and Clara, have a complex of jealousy and envy toward the British. Once, before the U.S. was in the war, Luce's Life magazine printed an open letter to the British, demanding their picture of the war. This was what Britain was being pounded by bombs and word alone.

He has 96 years to go

O you want to live to be 100? You have read about one man who has already cut the cake with a hundred candles, and four more people who are well on the way to doing so.

Many people will say: "I only want to live to a great age if I remain in possession of my faculties, lead a useful life, enjoy myself." If, in fact, you can lead a life as full of energy and interest as that of Nathaniel Micklem, Viscount Simon, A. E. Matthews, Helen Haye, Charles Hart.

What a cheerful, encouraging picture these five young "old" people present! What an invigorating answer to the gloomy Jeremiah who tells us that the pace of mid-twentieth century life is ageing us beyond our years!

But given an old age filled with such advantages, you may still ask: "Can I achieve it? CAN I live to be 100?"

Escape

IN spite of smog and sulphur fumes, in spite of the implications of nuclear fission and the jet age, in spite of crime waves, the toll of the roads, and the prevalence of some much publicised diseases, such as cancer, our prospects as a nation are, medically speaking, outstandingly good.

...But WHAT ARE YOUR CHANCES?

Viscount Simon is the outstanding example. Consider the grim responsibilities which were his, as Chancellor of the Exchequer and as Foreign Secretary during the wars, the almost intolerable stresses to which such a man is subjected.

How has Viscount Simon triumphed over these stresses, so that he can stride serenely forward into a still vigorous ninth decade?

It cannot be emphasised too often that there is no single or sure royal road to a healthy and vigorous old age. But what can be emphasised, and should be emphasised, is that each man or woman has it in his or her own keeping to live the sort of life most likely to promote the prospect of a long and healthy life.

Most of us have to adapt our ways of life to the demands made by our careers and our years. It is necessary to establish a discipline by which we regulate our existence, and it is possible to base this discipline upon certain broadly accepted medical principles.

The five members of the panel have seen the doctors. They have answered questions about their medical history, discussed their problems, and agreed to take part in what amounts to a continuing experiment in growing older in health and fitness.

It is an experiment in which all readers can take part.

Who are the panel? Who are to submit themselves to a medically prescribed regimen?

Their ages range from 25 to 64. Three of them are well known in public life and the world of entertainment.

Two careers

THERE are a grandmother, who leads a more energetic life than most women half her age; a middle-aged business man, whose talents have brought him to the forefront in two distinct careers simultaneously; a housewife with three children; a young business executive, trying to acclimatise himself to desk and office after an active outdoor life, and a career girl—an actress—who has to combine a busy social life with the demands of her work.

On Saturday January 2 we introduce them to you, and on succeeding days the medical board will investigate the lives they are leading, and prescribe for them (and for you) a regime which will remove many of the dangers of the passing years.

Next week:—meet the Panel.

And learn how you can take part in this great health experiment.

After prodding by myself and some friends, Luce received British correspondents and for an hour and a half put up a performance of alibis and excuses before finally agreeing to print a reply to the offensive open letter. And over the years there has been constant sniping and needling.

Co-operative

I FIND most newspaper and magazine publishers here friendly and co-operative in and out of print.

The other night I had a talk with Jack Howard, general manager of the Scripps-Howard newspapers. His faith in Anglo-American partnership is strong. And I am glad to see he is giving plenty of space to rebuttal of the charge that baiting of Americans is a popular sport in Britain.

The Hearst sons are much more mellow and friendly in this approach to Britain now that William Randolph Hearst is dead. So, too, is the New York Daily Mirror since Captain Patterson passed on and Richard Clarke, the executive editor who so often appears at British hosted parties, runs the paper. Why not join the team, Mr Luce?

Everest conquest

IT has been a fine week for the British on the American stage and in the American screen.

Hermione Ghogold is superb in John Murray Anderson's hilarious and handsome revue "Albion."

"The Conquest of Everest" is an outstanding success at the time. A fine cinema—really the picture of the week—or the month, and perhaps the year.

John Greenway has come from England to join the team.



A. E. MATTHEWS... Zest at 84.

★ DON IDDON'S DIARY ★

AMERICAN BUSINESS MOBILISES TO FIGHT THE SLUMPLET

New York, Tuesday. FROM the board-rooms of big business this order is being issued: "Get out and sell." The campaign called here "soured-up selling" has begun. Its purpose is to arrest decline in industry and commerce.

Tens of millions of dollars are to be spent on high-pressure advertising promotion and publicity to beat the slump.

I dined the other night with a group of bankers and business men, to whom I put the question: "Is there going to be a recession?"

Mr. Frank Wood, one-time president of the American Bank Note Company, told me: "Don't fool yourself. Recession is here now and American business has mobilised to lick it."

Production down

WALL STREET is not deluded itself, nor are Detroit and Pittsburgh. The simple fact is that production of nearly everything is down from the peak.

The production of iron and steel is off 11.3 percent, of other metals 11.8 percent, of machinery 4.9 percent, of textiles 20.3 percent, of manufactured goods 3 percent, of chemicals 3.1 percent, of motorcars 11.5 percent, of lumber 12.7 percent, of rubber 12.7 percent, of furniture 7.8 percent, of petroleum 8.3 percent.

Quite a list!

Only the paper industry and its products remain at pinnacles of production, and newpapers say they cannot keep (Sunday

back on the insults that were being flung at him, particularly in Europe. And took at Vice-President Nixon and the spectacular success of his tour of Asia.

By taking on the role of crusader for world peace—and the cloak seems to fit—Eisenhower has captured the American stage. By comparison Senator McCarthy's bid for leadership appears vulgar posturing.

Some Americans tell me that Ike's galvanic gesture of flying from the Big Three conference to speak at the U.N. Forum blacked-out Bernada and put Sir Winston Churchill in the wings. I doubt that.

Under scrutiny

ANYWAY, the Democrats, who thought the Republicans were coming apart, are discredited by the resurgence of the Administration. And now they are hitting out recklessly.

Anglo-American relations are coming into closer scrutiny since the Eisenhower speech; but why does the Henry Luce Press always seem to try to hamper and harm rather than aid the partnership?

The current issue of Time magazine has a map of the Middle East marked "Crucial." It is titled "Decide or Fail!" which asks: "Can Britain succeed where all others have failed?" The answer, of course, is "Yes."

I have always had the impression that the Luce, Henry and Clara, have a complex of jealousy and envy toward the British. Once, before the U.S. was in the war, Luce's Life magazine printed an open letter to the British, demanding their picture of the war. This was what Britain was being pounded by bombs and word alone.

After prodding by myself and some friends, Luce received British correspondents and for an hour and a half put up a performance of alibis and excuses before finally agreeing to print a reply to the offensive open letter. And over the years there has been constant sniping and needling.

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Caster — a sugar of superfine quality. Pure, white crystals hygienically packed.

Caster TAIKOO SUGAR

In 1 pound packets & 35 pound tins

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CHANGED DEMEANOUR OF RUSSIA

CHAPTER 35 OF THE BOOK, "TRIUMPH AND TRAGEDY"

Berlin was chosen as a meeting place for the Three Allied leaders. The Prime Minister was unable to persuade Mr. Truman to advance the date of the conference from July 15, 1945, to mid-June or the beginning of July.

THE main reason why I had been anxious to hasten the date of the meeting was, of course, the impending retirement of the American Army from the line which it had gained in the fighting to the zone prescribed in the occupation agreement.

I feared that any date a decision might be taken in Washington to yield up this enormous area—400 miles long and 120 at its greatest depth. It contained many millions of Germans and Czechs. Its abandonment would place a broader gulf of territory between us and Poland, and practically end our power to influence her fate.

The changed demeanour of Russia towards us, the constant breaches of the understandings reached at Yalta, the dart for Denmark, happily frustrated by Montgomery's timely action, the encroachments in Austria, Marshal Tito's menacing pressure at Trieste, all seemed to me and my advisers to create an entirely different situation from that in which the zones of occupation had been prescribed two years earlier.

SURELY, all these issues should be considered as a whole, and now was the time. Now, while the British and American Armies and Air Forces were still a mighty armed power, and before they melted away under demobilisation and the heavy claims of the Japanese war—now, at the very latest, was the time for a general settlement.

A month earlier would have been better. But it was not yet too late. On the other hand, to give up the whole centre and heart of Germany—nay, the centre and keystone of Europe—as an isolated act seemed to me to be a grave and improvident decision. If it were done at all, it could only be as part of a general and lasting settlement.

We should go to Potsdam with nothing to bargain with, and all the prospects of the future peace of Europe might well go by default. The matter, however, did not rest with me. Our own retirement to the occupation frontier was considerable. The American Army was three millions to our one.

All I could do was to plead, first, for advancing the date of the meeting of "the Three," and, secondly, when that failed, to postpone the withdrawal until we could confront all our problems as a whole, together, face to face, and on equal terms.

HOW stands the scene after eight years have passed? The Russian occupation line in Europe runs from Lubek to Linz, Czechoslovakia has been engulfed. The Baltic States, Poland, Rumania, and Bulgaria have been reduced to satellite States under totalitarian Communist rule. Austria is denied all settlement. Yugoslavia has broken loose, Greece alone is saved.

Our armies are gone, and it will be a long time before even 60 divisions can be once again assembled opposite Russian forces, which in armour and manpower are in overwhelming

strength. This also takes no account of all that has happened in the Far East. Only the atomic bomb stretches its sinister shield before us.

The danger of a third World War, under conditions at the outset of grave disadvantage except in this new terrible weapon, casts its lurid shadow over the free nations of the world. Thus in the moment of victory was our best, and what might prove to have been our last, chance of durable world peace allowed compositely to fade away.

ON June 4 I cabled to the President these words, which few would now dispute.

I am sure you understand the reason why I am anxious for an earlier date, say the 3rd or 4th [of July]. I view with profound misgivings the retreat of the American Army to our line of occupation in the central sector, thus bringing Soviet power into the heart of Western Europe and the descent of an iron curtain between us and everything to the eastward.

I hoped that this retreat, if it has to be made, would be accompanied by the settlement of many great things which would be the true foundation of world peace. Nothing really important has been settled yet, and you and I will have to bear great responsibility for the future. I still hope therefore that the date will be advanced.

I reinforced this argument by referring to the high-handed behaviour of the Russians in Vienna [where Marshal Tolbukhin had ordered the Allied missions to leave by June 10 or 11]. On June 12 the President replied.

He said that the tripartite agreement about the occupation of Germany, approved by President Roosevelt after "long consideration" and detailed discussion with me, made it impossible to delay the withdrawal of American troops from the Soviet Zone in order to press the settlement of other problems.

THE Allied Control Council could not begin to function until they left, and the Military Government exercised by the Allied Supreme Commander should be terminated without delay and divided between Eisenhower and Montgomery. He had been advised, he said, that it would harm our relations with the Soviet to postpone action until our meeting in July, and he accordingly proposed sending a message to Stalin.

This document suggested that we should at once instruct our armies to occupy their respective zones. As for Germany, he was ready to order all American troops to begin withdrawing on June 21. The

military commanders should arrange for the simultaneous occupation of Berlin and for free access thereto by road, rail and air from Frankfurt and Berlin for the United States forces.

In Austria arrangements could be completed more quickly and satisfactorily by making the local commanders responsible for defining the zones both there and in Vienna, only referring to their Governments such matters as they were unable to resolve themselves. This struck a knell in my breast. But I had no choice but to submit.

It must not be overlooked that President Truman had not been concerned or consulted in the original fixing of the zone. The case as presented to him so soon after his accession to power was whether or not to repudiate, the policy of the American and British Governments agreed under his illustrious predecessor. He was, I have no doubt, supported in his action by his advisers, military and civil.

HIS responsibility at this point was limited to deciding whether circumstances had changed so fundamentally that an entirely different procedure should be adopted, with the likelihood of having to face accusations of breach of faith. Those who are only wise after the event should hold their peace.

[The Prime Minister persuaded Mr. Truman to suggest that Allied garrisons should be admitted to Vienna, and an Allied Commission set up in Austria at the same time as the troop movements in Germany.]

He himself wrote to Stalin asking that the British Zone in Austria should be evacuated simultaneously. Stalin's reply follows.

Marshal Stalin to Prime Minister

17 June 45
...I regret to have to tell you that there are difficulties in the way of beginning the withdrawal of the British and American troops to their zones, and of introducing British and American troops into Berlin on June 21, in that from June 19 onwards, Marshal Zhukov and all our other commanders in the field have been invited to Moscow for the session of the Supreme Soviet, and also to organise and participate in a parade on June 24.

They will be able to return to Berlin by June 28-30. It must also be borne in mind that work on clearing Berlin of land mines is still not completed towards the end of June.

With regard to Austria, I have to repeat what I have already told you about the summons of Soviet commanders to Moscow and the date of their return to Vienna. It is also necessary that in

the very near future the European Advisory Commission should complete its work on establishing the zones of occupation in Austria and Vienna, which is still outstanding.

In view of the facts presented above, I would propose to postpone the withdrawal and replacement by the appropriate forces in the respective zones until July 1, both in Germany and in Austria. Further, as regards Germany and Austria, it would be desirable to establish now the zones of occupation for the French troops.

On July 1 the United States and British Armies began their withdrawal to their allotted zones, followed by masses of refugees. Soviet Russia was established in the heart of Europe. This was a fateful milestone for mankind.

WHILE all this was passing I was plunged into the turmoil of the General Election, begun in earnest in the first week of June. This month was therefore hard to live through. Strenuous motor tours to the greatest cities of England and Scotland, with three or four speeches a day to enormous and, it seemed, enthusiastic crowds, and, above all, four laboriously prepared broadcasts, consumed my time and strength.

All the while I felt that much we had fought for in our long struggle in Europe was slipping away and that the hopes of an early and lasting peace were receding. The days were passed amid the clamour of multitudes, and when at night, tired out, I got back to my headquarters train, where a considerable staff and all the incoming telegrams awaited me, I had to tell for many hours.

The incongruity of party excitement and clatter with the sombre background which filled my mind was in itself an affront to reality and proportion. I was glad indeed when polling day at last arrived and the ballot papers were safely sealed for three weeks in their boxes.

A FEW days later I sent Hallifax a cable on details about which the President and his colleagues might be glad to be informed.

Naturally I am looking forward very much to meeting the President. The political members of the British delegation will quit the [Potsdam] Conference on July 25 in order to await the poll in England. This will avoid embarrassment when the results are made known.

I am led to believe that the present Government will obtain a majority, but, as the President knows, electioneering is full of surprises. It is most unlikely in any event that I should resign, on an adverse declaration of the

poll, unless it amounted to a very extreme expression of national displeasure.

I should await the result of a confidence vote in the House of Commons on the King's Speech, and take my dismissal from the House. This would enable the various parties and individuals to define their position by a vote.

I am delighted to hear that the President contemplates two or even three weeks, as I think it of the utmost importance that, whatever happens in England, the conference should not be hurried. It was somewhat abruptly curtailed in the Crimea. We have here to try to reach settlements on a great number of questions of the greatest consequence, and to prepare the way for a Peace Conference, which presumably will be held later in the year or in the early spring.

HE replied next day with the following telegram, which shows how well he understood the Washington view.

7 July 45
I am sure you will find Truman most anxious to work with us, and fully alive to the long-range implications as well as short-term difficulties of the decisions we have to make. I judge that American tactics with the Russians will be to display at the outset confidence in Russian willingness to co-operate.

I should also expect the Americans in dealing with us to be more responsive to arguments based upon the danger of economic chaos in European countries than to the bolder pleas about the risks of extreme Left Government or of the spread of Communism. They showed some signs of nervousness in my portrayal of Europe (whatever the facts) as the scene of a clash of ideas in which the Soviet and Western influences are likely to be hostile and conflicting.

At the back of their minds there are still lingering suspicions that we want to back Right Wing Governments or monarchies for their own sake. This does not in the least mean that they will be unwilling to stand up with us against the Russians when necessary. But they are likely to pick their occasions with care, and are half expecting to play, or at any rate to represent themselves as playing, a moderating role between ourselves and the Russians.

A few years later it was Britain and Western Europe who were urged in many quarters to play the "moderating role" between the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. Such are the antics of fortune.

(Continued on Monday)

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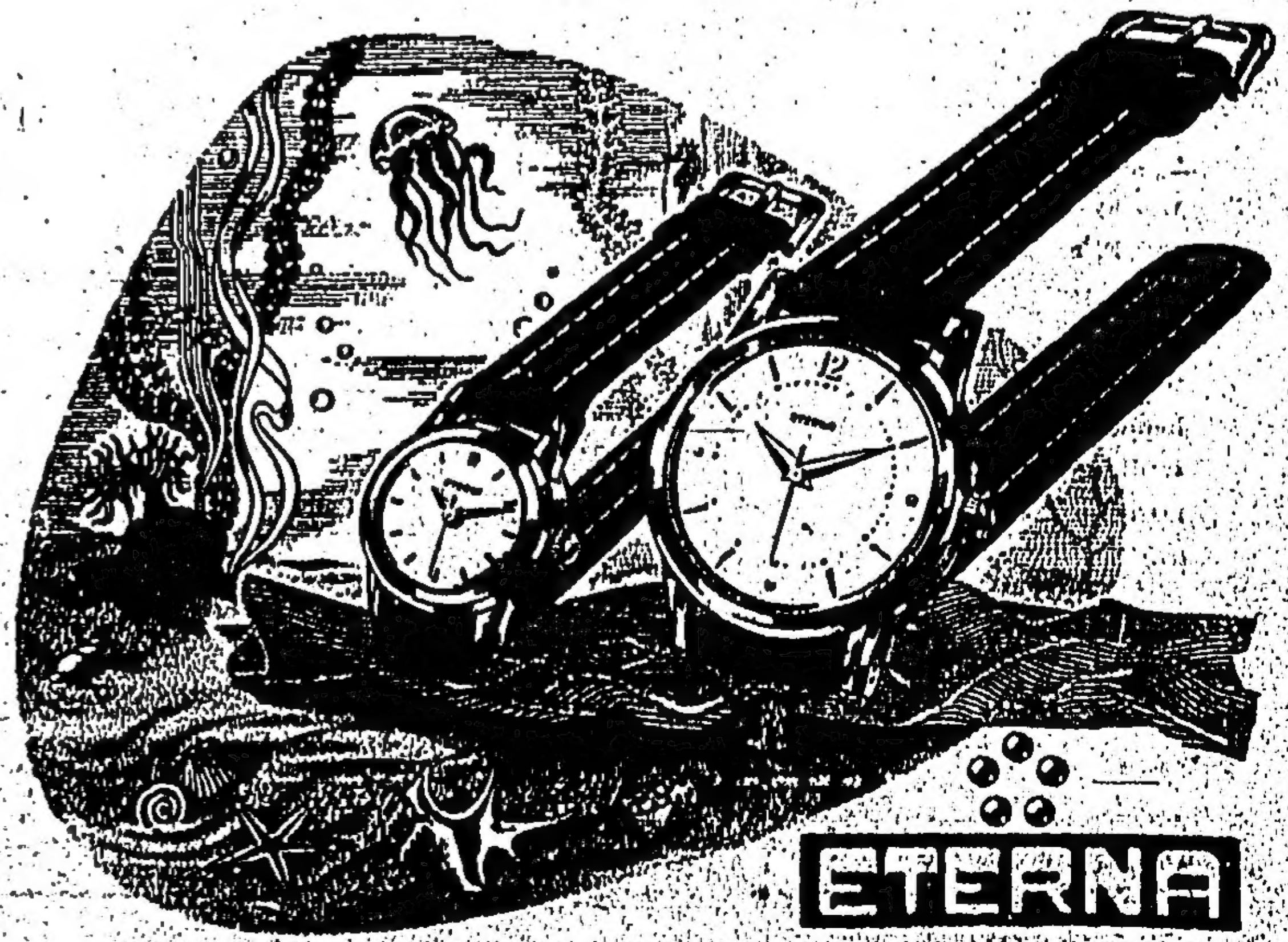
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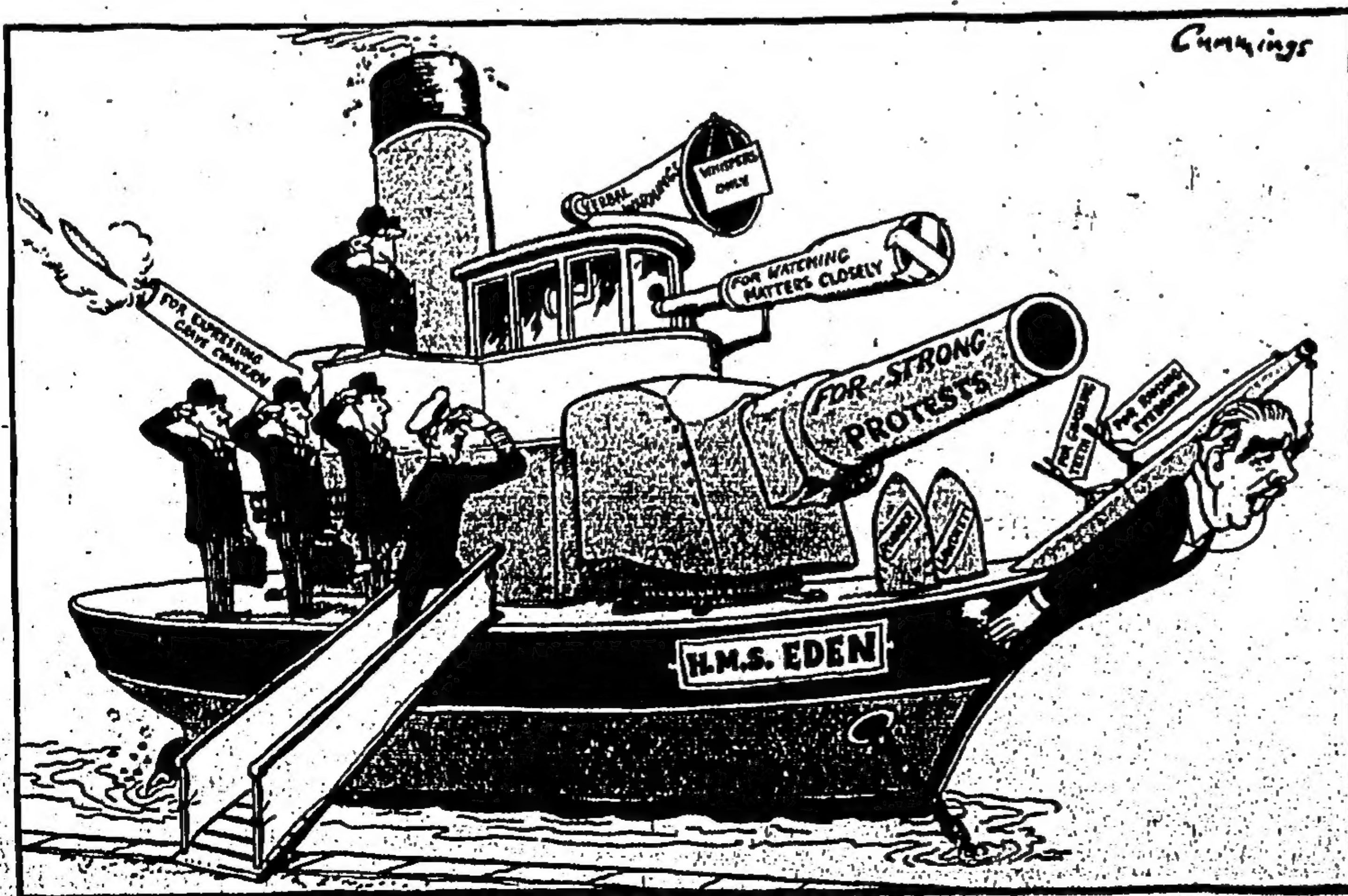
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yet you are going to expose it to all kinds of dangers: rain, soap-lather, dust, perhaps even perfume and powder — all these are deadly enemies of your watch and can prove fatal to the mechanism and oils inside it! It is a gruelling test. That is why, if you prize accuracy above all, you must insist on a watch that is absolutely waterproof — only then can you be sure of lasting precision. The Eterna waterproof guarantees enduring accuracy. It is shock-protected, antimagnetic and completely impervious to damp and dust — thus it assures you of time-security under all the conditions of everyday life.



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THE FOREIGN OFFICE GUNBOAT—LAUNCHED 1953



I have often wanted to find out what happens to a person when fame strikes fast... and 1953 has thrown up the perfect specimen

The Golden Girl of the Year

by **LOGAN GOURLAY**

PICTURED HERE IN HOLLYWOOD WITH THE GIRL HE IS WRITING ABOUT IN THIS SERIES



AT 8 p.m. on Sunday, November 22, Audrey Hepburn could sit back happily in her Hollywood apartment as the most envied girl in Show Business. With only two leading parts to her credit—in a play and a film—she had created an impact unequalled for a decade.

But Audrey Hepburn, star of *Roman Holiday*, didn't know how to mix a Martini. I, as a dinner guest in her home, had asked for one. So she said, looking cannily at the modest array of bottles on a small table:—

"I'm not sure how much gin and how much vermouth to put in. But let me try."

At 8.5 she had succeeded in mixing a Martini. W. Somerset Maugham, who once told me he considered himself the greatest Martini mixer outside the bartenders' guild, would probably have considered the Hepburn blend insubstantial, but I found it palatable.

The drink itself is, of course, unimportant. Audrey Hepburn—who was that interesting girl second from the right in London chorus three years ago and who is 1953's Golden Girl of Stage and Screen—will never have to earn a living with a cocktail shaker.

★ ★ ★

The incident, however, is a minor but significant key to the Hepburn character and career. The remarkable Hepburn story was distilled in that small Martini glass.

She told me: "Again and again throughout my life I've been asked to do things for which I wasn't fully prepared or trained. I've just had to do the best I could at the time."

AT NINE O'CLOCK one grey morning during 1940—in Ar-

NEXT WEEK... ALMOST A MARRIAGE

hem, Holland, while the Germans were in occupation, a ten-year-old pig-tailed Audrey encountered the first test for which she was unprepared.

Baffled

BORN in Brussels of an English father and a Dutch mother she had been sent to school in England. Taken to Holland at the beginning of the war by her mother, she couldn't speak a word of Dutch.

"That first morning in school," she said, "I sat at my little bench, completely baffled. I went home at the end of the day, weeping. For several days I went home weeping."

"But I knew I couldn't just give up. I was forced to learn the language quickly. And I did."

"Considering what was to happen to me later, it was a useful basic experience."

★ ★ ★

AT 10.30 on a bright morning in London in 1948, Audrey

Hepburn faced her second test, untrained and untutored, at an audition for the American musical comedy *High Button Shoes*.

She had come to London a few months earlier to continue the ballet training she had started in Holland. But she decided, with a characteristic flash of self-assessment, that she had no future in classical ballet. She would have to try musical comedy.

"The trouble was I knew nothing about modern dance steps, and my ear wasn't attuned to the rhythms."

"Looking back today, I don't know how I had the nerve to go to that audition." To her astonishment, she got a job in the chorus at £8 a week precisely—"I felt suddenly rich and secure."

Personality

THE other week in New York I asked American star Lew Parker, who appeared in *High Button Shoes* in London, if he had noticed the little girl in the chorus.

He replied: "Yes, indeed. She wasn't an outstanding dancer. But she had a personality that attracted you immediately. You know what I mean—THERE WAS SOMETHING ABOUT HER."

(Note that phrase. It crops up again and again in the Hepburn story. It remains nebulous. The "something" cannot be defined because it is applied to an indefinable quality—the magic which makes a star of a chorus girl.)

AT 8.30 P.M. in the Alvin Theatre, New York, the November 24, 1951, when the curtain rose on the first night of *Gigi*, Audrey Hepburn faced her third test without adequate experience and background.

While playing a small film part in the south of France, she had been noticed by the celebrated Colette, who wrote the book on which *Gigi* was based.

With surprise spilling from her brown saucer eyes she had been whisked into rehearsals.

Within a few weeks a 21-year-old tyro, who had never

even carried a maid's tray in a straight play, was preparing to face a hypercritical metropolitan audience as leading lady.

I was in New York at the time and I went backstage to wish her luck. She said: "I need more than that. You'll have to pray for a miracle."

"Secretly I was inclined to agree. I knew she could shake a shapely leg in the chorus, but that was all. It would be too easy to be wise after the event. But I confess now that I feared a Hepburn disaster in *Gigi*. I said as much to my New York colleagues who asked me about her while we waited for the curtain to rise."

It is theatrical history that she triumphed. Although she lacked technique she revealed that she had instinctive talent, natural poise, and that innate charm which demolishes the wall between players and audience.

Some of my New York colleagues were convinced that I had been withholding information or that I was lacking in

THE TWO FACES OF AUDREY HEPBURN

Roman Holiday... the grave little princess of the film hiding her broken heart; Real Holiday... the shining smile that they say is a certain 'heart-stealer'...

perception. They haven't forgiven me yet.

I have forgiven her freely for proving me so completely and magnificently wrong.

★ ★ ★

THE FOURTH TEST came for the untrained Audrey about nine o'clock on a sultry morning in Rome during May 1952 when she faced the cameras for the first scene in her first major film role in *Roman Holiday*.

Her doubts

DIRECTOR WILLIAM WYLER, who had discovered her potentialities when trying her out for the part, by filming her when she didn't know

the cameras were turning, was convinced she could give an outstanding performance in *Roman Holiday*.

Audrey herself, who had played only bit parts in a few British films, was not convinced.

Star Gregory Peck, who was accustomed to experienced leading ladies, shared Audrey's doubts.

But after the weeks of shooting Peck was so impressed he sent this cable to the Hollywood chiefs: "Suggest Audrey Hepburn be given co-star billing in *Roman Holiday*."

It was a rare and unusual gesture because actors—even modest, level-headed actors like Peck—guard their billing as zealously as they preserve their hair-lines.

So the new girl acquired star status before the film was completed.

It was only a few months since she had rushed across the street in New York after the first night of *Gigi* to see the billing changed from

GIGI with Audrey Hepburn to AUDREY HEPBURN in GIGI.

It was just over a year since she had unceremoniously shed her chorus girl's tights.

In the entertainment sphere fame hadn't struck so fast, so unexpectedly, and so resoundingly for at least ten years.

Exciting

AS I flew in the over-night plane from New York to Hollywood and waited for a sleeping-pill to act, I was turning these events over in my mind.

I had made the same journey to Hollywood only a few weeks before, but I had been unable to spend much time with Audrey Hepburn. Still I would probably have postponed another meeting—and the writing of this story—but for these remarks heard in New York.

"She's the most exciting thing to see in Hollywood since Garbo and that other Hepburn—Katharine."

The speaker was Sam Goldwyn, veteran assessor of Hollywood careers.

"She'll be the biggest star in Hollywood within two years."

This came from Sol Siegel, who has a shrewd producer's sense of Hollywood values.

It should be mentioned that Mosses Goldwyn and Siegel have no financial interest in the Hepburn future.

"I agreed to direct the play if they got Audrey Hepburn for the leading part."

These were the words of actor-director Alfred Lunt, who can take his choice of leading

ladies on either side of the Atlantic. The play is *Ordinary*, translated from the French of Giraudoux, which will open in New York at the beginning of 1954.

Now I was back in Hollywood having an informal dinner with the subject of all this eulogy. As I finished that Martini, which she had mixed with the enthusiasm of a deb, uncorking her first bottle of champagne, she related to her small kitchen with the self-conscious air of a young spinster experimenting in the role of hostess.

In private life she is a confusing but captivating amalgam of adolescent gaiety and adult gravity.

She cooks

SHE does her own cooking and housework in the apartment, which could be classified as the Hollywood equivalent of a Kensington bed-sitter. But of course it has better plumbing and a few extra mod cons—like the dining alcove with Regency decor and the inviting sun patio.

The apartment—at £60 a month, a low rental for these parts—is all she can afford at the moment. For she is the Golden Girl only because she basks in the glow of sudden fame. Her salary will leap rapidly, but it is still not much beyond £400 a week.

And despite suggestions about changing her hair to an appropriate shade the Golden Girl has firmly remained a brunette. Just as she has resisted other Hollywood attempts to alter her basic anatomy.

She was innocuously new to the place when she arrived in Hollywood to make her second starring film *Sabrina Fair* (*Roman Holiday* was shot entirely in Rome).

The citizens had to admit that she had exhibited allure, even sex appeal, in *Roman Holiday*, but she lacked what they consider the essential physical equipment. It includes a prominent bust line.

In fact it is almost a mathematical axiom in Hollywood that the graph of a girl's success is in direct proportion to her bust measurement.

Elfin

YET here was a slim creature with a frail frame, a tiny chin, a face under an untidy fringe of hair, and nothing out of proportion except her size 6½ feet, which she has called "embarrassingly big."

Her curve of fame soared upwards, but her anatomy remained flat by Hollywood standards.

Billy Wilder, director of *Sabrina Fair*, had even been heard to say: "She will make become a thing of the past."

She was striking at the very foundations of the Hollywood pundits' cherished beliefs. It was as though someone were trying to tell them that the world was flat.

They were sceptical—and worried.

SAM WHITE'S PARIS LETTER WHAT A SHOCK FOR THEM!

FOR Frenchmen the shock was a little like being told that Marianne would no longer be the symbol of the Republic or that the inscription "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity" was to be erased from public buildings.

Edouard Herriot, who has announced his virtual retirement from politics, is a Churchillian figure in whom every Frenchman sees a little of himself.

He has immense erudition, great literary talent, staunch Republican principles, political skill, an eye for a pretty girl and a gargantuan appetite for good food and wine.

For 50 years his immense frame and his square, peasant-like face, with a pipe jutting out of it, were at the centre of the French political stage.

Of humble parentage, he became at an early age one of France's most brilliant classical scholars.

Throughout his turbulent life he kept publishing volume after volume of brilliantly-written historical treatises which finally won him a place in the French Academy.

To the chagrin of the extreme French Right, which at the time was Royalist and Catholic and which liked to claim a monopoly of French scholarship, he became a Radical politician and a member of the party which is anti-clerical and derives directly from the French Revolution.

But Herriot's first public post has always held first place in his heart. He has been Mayor of Lyons since 1905 and it was his attachment to Lyons which decided him against going to Britain after the French collapse in 1940.

In 1942 he returned his Legion of Honour to Pétain because the Vichy government had awarded the same honour to French volunteers with the German army. After that followed house arrest and finally deportation to Germany.

Herriot, a magnificent orator, has been Speaker of the French Parliament for the past six years. He has played little direct part in politics during those years except as adviser, but he has intervened directly and with considerable effect on two occasions.

The first was when he joined forces with President Auriol to check General de Gaulle's seemingly irresistible drive to power. The second was recently, when he became the centre of opposition to the European Army scheme.

There are two women in Herriot's life—his wife and his cook Cosarine, both of whom have been with him for 47 years. They are both delighted at the news of his retirement.

Says his wife: "At last he will get some rest."

Rest is the last thing he intends for although his legs are almost completely paralysed his mind is as active as ever. And since he leaves politics a com-



CORINNE CALVET
The cute accent needs a brush-up.

paratively poor man, with only a book-cluttered flat in Lyons to retire to, he intends to devote himself to writing to supplement his income.

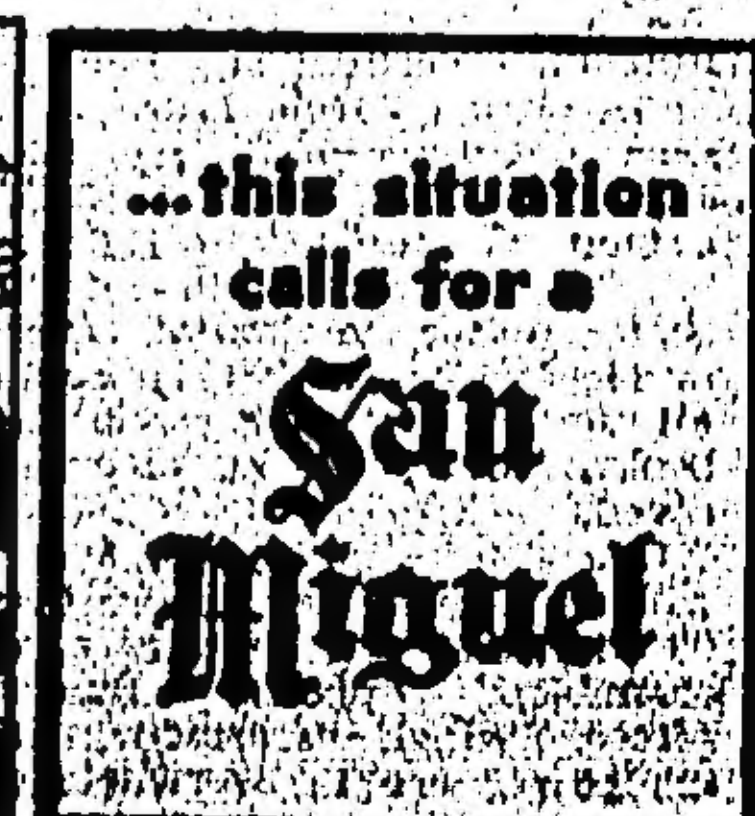
DIZZY RETURN

TWENTY-SEVEN-YEAR-OLD French-born film star Corinne Calvet has returned to France after a five-year absence, apparently a little dizzy from her Hollywood success. Her hair is dyed a colour which she calls "Rose champagne."

Reason for the visit to France? Says her publicity agent—with rare tact: "She has come back to France to brush up her French accent. She has almost lost it by now. You know that cute French accent—it sure is one of her great assets."

Another tactful comment, this time by Miss Calvet: "Paris clothes? Not for me. I prefer the ready-made clothes you can buy in New York."

JOHNNY HAZARD



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WEEK-END WOMANSENSE

Spotlight On Teenage Fashion

By Dorothy Barkley

FASHION has invaded the teenage departments in London shops and taken teenagers by storm.

Copies of the new season's styles are on sale in colours that suit them and at prices they can afford, only a few months after being shown by the top designers.

Elizabeth and I went along to look at a teenage department—of Primrose and Matou's—and there we found that the princess dress and the cupola skirt are top sellers at the moment.

The princess dress—because it makes an admirable first college or business dress. The teenager chooses one in a brown

and white check with tucking down the front, and a little striped collar. And she avoids these out-of-fashion details—square shoulders, long sleeves, pleated skirt.

The cupola skirt—because, on a short evening dress, it is just the right style for parties. It's worn over layers of rustling petticoats. She chooses one in grey ribbed silk with the new wide V neckline. And she avoids these out-of-fashion details: strapless top and pastel colours.

★ ★ ★

Her suit, too, follows the new fashion. It is in hard-wearing grey flannel, with the rounded shoulder line. (Square padded shoulders, like those on a boy's suit, are out.) She might choose one that has boot buttons all the way down the jacket, more boot buttons on the sleeve.

Her cotton dresses are candy striped, with two ruffles on the hem, and only a suggestion of a sleeve. Keeping an eye on fashion, she has the collar and cuffs in sugar pink.

Separates have long been the solution to the teenager's fashion problem. This year they are fashionable too. She might choose a sweater in a blue grass shade, and team it with a brushed wool skirt—the coat material of burnt orange. For fun, she might top it with a jelly-bag hat. One to match her sweater, and sewn with soap bubble sequins, would be new.

★ ★ ★

Some of the clothes in these teenage departments are toying with the fashion line so well that teenagers' mothers, when they come within the size range, are shopping there too. It's nothing unusual to hear a mother say (if she has come in alone to buy her daughter's clothes) "I'll take the dress. If it doesn't fit her, it will fit me."

There's not much point in teenagers having these fashion-conscious clothes designed for them unless they follow the rules.

Any doubters, who don't know what the rules are, ought to be presented with a copy, headed: Three Rules for the Teenager.

She should choose a simple hairstyle, have it cut regularly and then perhaps there would be some chance of killing, for all time, the "St. Trinian" look so often seen on teenagers—lumpy, tweed skirt, fuzzy hairstyles, shapeless coat, baggy beret.

ABOVE: Candy striped cotton dress. Full skirted, it has sugar pink collar and cuffs, and two ruffles on the hem.

RIGHT: Princess dress in brown and white check, with tucking down the front and a striped collar.

By a good stylist. She should wash her hair twice a week, knowing that the extra effort is well worth while. She should be able to discriminate between the fashions that will suit her and those that won't.

She will then find that there are lots of young fashions that are just right for her—jelly-bag hats, ballet pumps, "little girl" dresses with Peter Pan collars, and exotic splashes of colour.

And then perhaps there would be some chance of killing, for all time, the "St. Trinian" look so often seen on teenagers—lumpy, tweed skirt, fuzzy hairstyles, shapeless coat, baggy beret.

Each of the women is taking an evening dress—"so we can dress up occasionally, like we do at home."

The trip, which will begin at Casablanca, will wind through the Sahara and end at Cairo. It will cover thousands of miles.

Bernheim believes that about a quarter of the distance will be over areas so desolate that there is no record of their ever having been traversed before.

He explained: "We plan to study the human side of Africa. I have an anthropological interest in tribal life. I like people who lead a simple life, and I like Negroes."

—(London Express Service)

They Take Evening Gowns To Sahara

A MODERN caravan is to carry Manhattan businessman Claude Bernheim and his family over the sands of the Sahara Desert soon. Two vehicles have been specially constructed to provide all home comforts.

One vehicle is armour-plated—protection against any hostile African tribes who may be encountered.

The unit includes luxurious dining and sleeping accommodation, a sewing machine, a refrigerator plant.

Bernheim said: "This trip is something I have wanted to do since I flew over Africa during the war—I was a pilot for the Free French."

"Airports were the only African terrain I got a chance to see."

—(London Express Service)

"My ambition now is to drive and walk over the continent with people I like."

In this instance the people Bernheim "likes" are his wife, Jeanne, his two daughters, Danielle, 18, and Miriam, 22, and Miriam's husband, Francis Comant.

Each of the women is taking an evening dress—"so we can dress up occasionally, like we do at home."

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—(London Express Service)

—(London Express Service)

MAKE UP YOUR MIND FIRST...

By IDA JEAN KAIN

A COMMON complaint made by overweights who love to eat is that they have no will power when it comes to turning down delicious food. But will power as you ordinarily think of it, isn't the most important factor in weight control. The biggest part of reducing is done with your mind. Once you make up your mind to banish the fat, you'll have the will power.

That Did It!

For example, one girl who had taken on 30 extra pounds after she married, had tried to diet without any noticeable results. But one day she received a letter that told of plans for a family reunion a few months hence, to celebrate her parents' wedding anniversary. That did it. She determined to get her figure back before she faced her sisters. And the result was pretty good.

Now, would you say our overweight had suddenly developed will power? In the sense that a strong incentive bolstered her resolve, yes... but wasn't it simply that her desire to be of normal weight activated her to stay with a plan of eating that helped achieve her goal? Faced with the choice of showing up overweight and dumpy, or reducing, she determined to diet. Perhaps that is what will power really is—choice power.

However, it may be you lack the will to stay with a diet longer than a few days. You

start out fully determined that this time, but between 4:00 and 5:00 in the afternoon you get a depleted, all-gone feeling. About the 2nd or 3rd day you conclude you simply haven't what it takes.

Scientific Nibbling

That is not evidence of lack of will power, but of lowered blood sugar. So instead of going back to your old ways of eating, try "scientific nibbling." For an energy-boost, have a protein pick-up—a big glass of buttermilk or skim milk. Or a small glass of orange juice with a raw egg beaten in it. Or eat a hard cooked egg, or a ¼ ounce wedge of cheese. And have a cup of hot tea with lemon. This is piece-mealing with a purpose—to prevent energy lag and, at the same time, to prevent a big dinner appetite. Those 80 to 100 calories, taken in time, can save the diet.

Will power depends on a couple of things—primarily on desire, for you always have sufficient will to do anything; you really want to do. But it is also sustained by energy. Energy in turn depends on adequate nutrition, and many popular diets fail to provide half-way protective nutrition. On such fare energy lowers. Then old food habits tend to get the upper hand and you follow the line of least resistance.

If you really want to regain normal weight, and follow a highly protective diet, your will power will strengthen day by day as new food habits take hold.

Back From Exile—The Lace

THERE will be a difference this year about Christmas. In a million small ways the old festive scene has changed. For the turkey-and-tree Christmas always remains the same, but from a woman's standpoint the setting is different.

In fashions, in the home, in toys, and in a woman's looks, the scheme of things has moved on.

Take, for example, the party dress in lace. There's a newness about it.

LACE is back from a long exile. Lace—which used to belong essentially to middle-aged women at provincial parties—is today the fabric that smart women choose for their new party dress.

The Princess, for one

Princess Margaret at the Royal Film Show in white lace. . . . Model Della Oake in dark-red lace with one bare shoulder. . . . Actress Constance Cummings in pale blonde lace at a first night. . . .

The list could go on and on.

What brought lace out of the cupboard? Like every other fashion success, it was not just a something in the air. Like every fashion that sells, it is a success because of the boost behind it.

What the public sees when a new fashion catches on is an old story. It runs like this:—

The fashionable Dior creates an exquisite dress in an unusual material. It draws rounds of applause at the dress show. It is mentioned by all fashion writers. Its picture appears in all the fashion magazines. The dress manufacturers take it up—and a new craze is launched.

How it all happens

What the public doesn't know is the much more fascinating story behind the launching. It runs like this:—

First, manufacturers of the world unite to pay for a world-wide publicity job. They set up offices in London, Paris, and New York. Then the top-level firms approach each Paris designer with samples of their fabric, and offer to make him any kind, any colour, embroidered, silver threaded, cobwebby or coarse, any amount.

When the dress appears in the Paris collections shown to the Press, the lace publicity girls appear enthusiastically. ("Clap madly," one of them implores at Dior's show last summer. "It's lace.")

Then the dress is photographed and circulated free to all the magazines—American, Continental, British. In six months the party dress you long for is a lace one.

And that's why a British dress manufacturer who makes a short lace evening dress for nine guineas has sold more than 1,000 in two months.

—(London Express Service)

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THE FOUR TYPES OF MEN

SHE meets an American and thinks: "American cigarettes. Nylons. Latest American musical on long-playing records."

"A very big Cadillac. An invitation to his ranch in Texas. When I introduce him: 'You know, he's the son of Hackenbacker the Chicago meat packer.'"

She meets an Italian and thinks: "Dancing every night. Flowers. Italian silk. Italian lessons. Invitation to his villa in Capri. A two-seater Alfa Romeo."

"When I introduce him: 'You know, he's the last of the Borgias.'"

She meets a maharajah and thinks: "One's weight. In

jewels. Looking lovely on an elephant. Sails. Ropes of pigeon-egg pearls. Invitation to a tiger hunt. A Rolls-Royce."

"When I introduced him: 'You know, he owns half Bengal.'"

She meets an Englishman and thinks: "Potted shrubs. Rummy matches. Fabric gloves. For birthdays, or shagreen hair-brushes. An occasional brace of grouse."

Father's pre-Home-made war salad. An invitation to come and weed the garden with his sister."

"When I introduce him: 'You know, death duffles crippled the three won't last. The fourth might be yours for life.'"



The Dairy Farm wishes all its patrons A Merry Christmas and A Prosperous New Year

THE DAIRY FARM ICE & COLD STORAGE CO., LTD.



THE Hon. John Laycock (left), Member of the Singapore Legislative Council, was guest of honour at a cocktail party given by the Malayan Association of Hong-kong last week. Others in picture are, from left, Dr Leo Hah-Ileng, Mr Booy Kok-kang, President of the Association, and Col. J. D. Clague. (Staff Photographer)



MR J. V. Ramsay assists his wife in cutting the cake at the party given in the Kowloon Dock Club to celebrate their silver wedding. (Mainland)



THE Consul for the Philippines, Mr Vicente Singlan, gave a Christmas party at his residence last week, and picture shows him (standing, extreme right) with his guests. (Willie's)



AN enjoyable Christmas dance was held at the Kowloon Cricket Club last Saturday evening, when the camera caught the two scenes above. The carollers were under the direction of Mr Norman Broadbridge. (Staff Photographer)

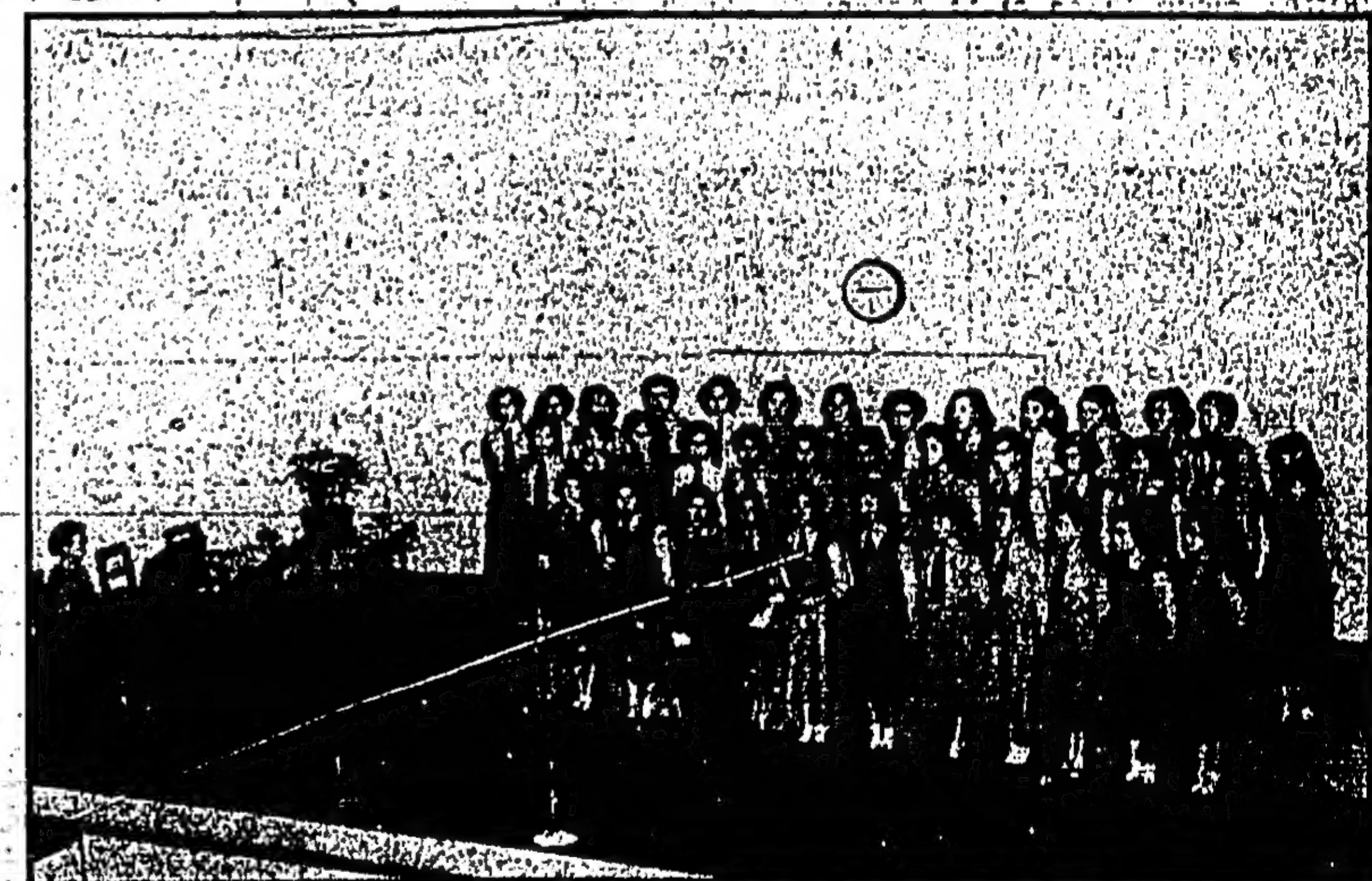


MR John Alexander Borthwick and Miss Annette Elizabeth Landsbert pictured as they were leaving St John's Cathedral after their wedding last Saturday. (Staff Photographer)



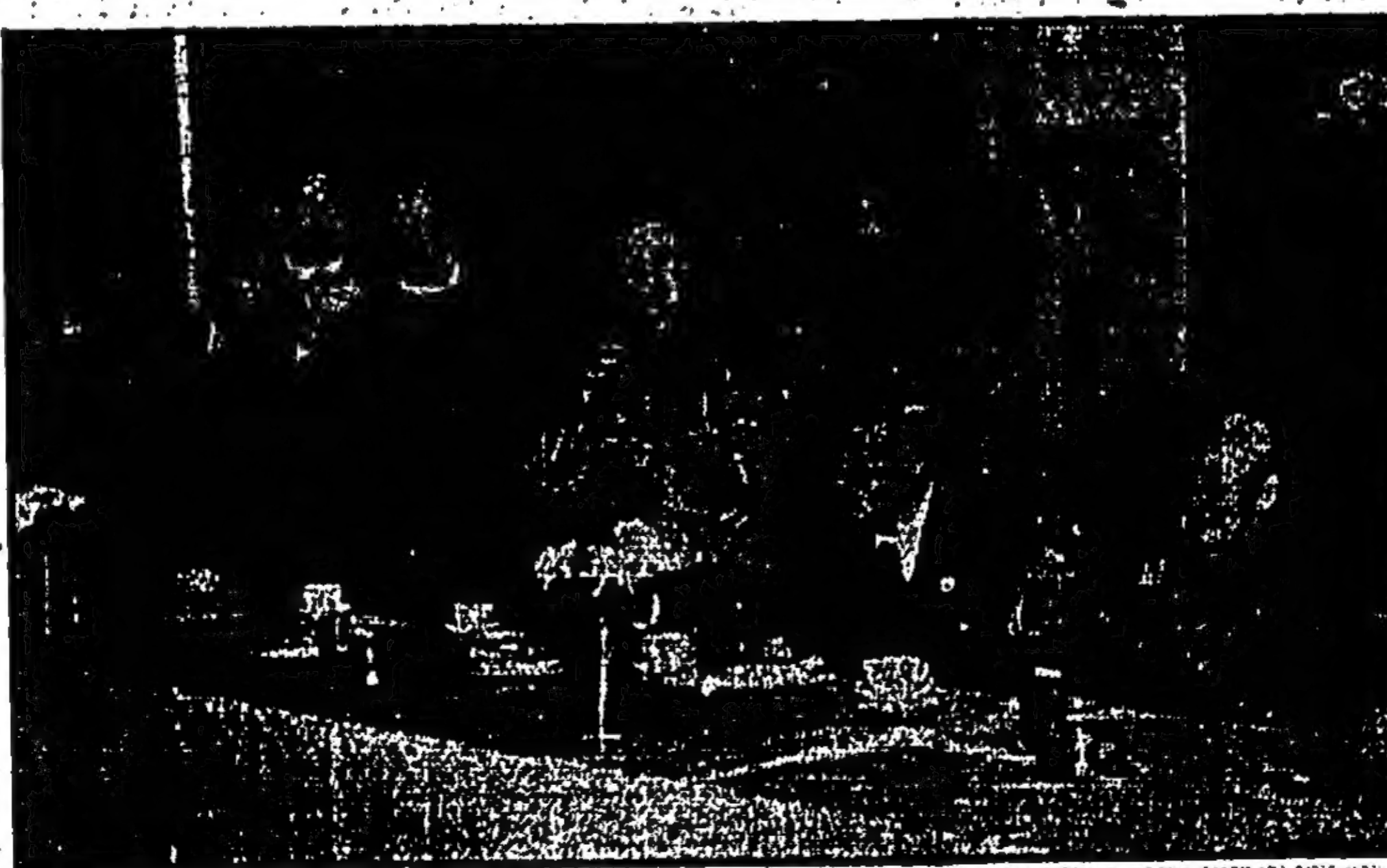
MR R. Y. Frost, General Manager of the Asiatic Petroleum Co., Ltd. (extreme right), is seen with Major-General R. C. Cruddas, Air Commodore R. C. Field, Major G. P. Bulman and Mr E. M. O'Hara at a cocktail party held prior to the premiere showing of the film, "Powered Flight," at the Hongkong Club. The film commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Wright Brothers' first flight on December 17, 1903. (Willie's)

BELOW: Friends toasting Mr and Mrs Henry Gittins at their diamond wedding party held at the Peninsula Hotel last Saturday. (Staff Photographer)



MISS N. Edwards conducting the Diocesan Girls' School choir at a carol concert given at the Diocesan Boys' School last week. (Staff Photographer)

BELOW: Past and present students of King George V School who met in their annual soccer match last Sunday. The old boys won by three goals to one. (Staff Photographer)



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HIS Excellency the Governor, Sir Alexander Grantham, at the cocktail party held at the Repulse Bay Hotel to mark the centenary of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China. The Manager, Mr A. J. Bird, is in the centre. (Staff Photographer)



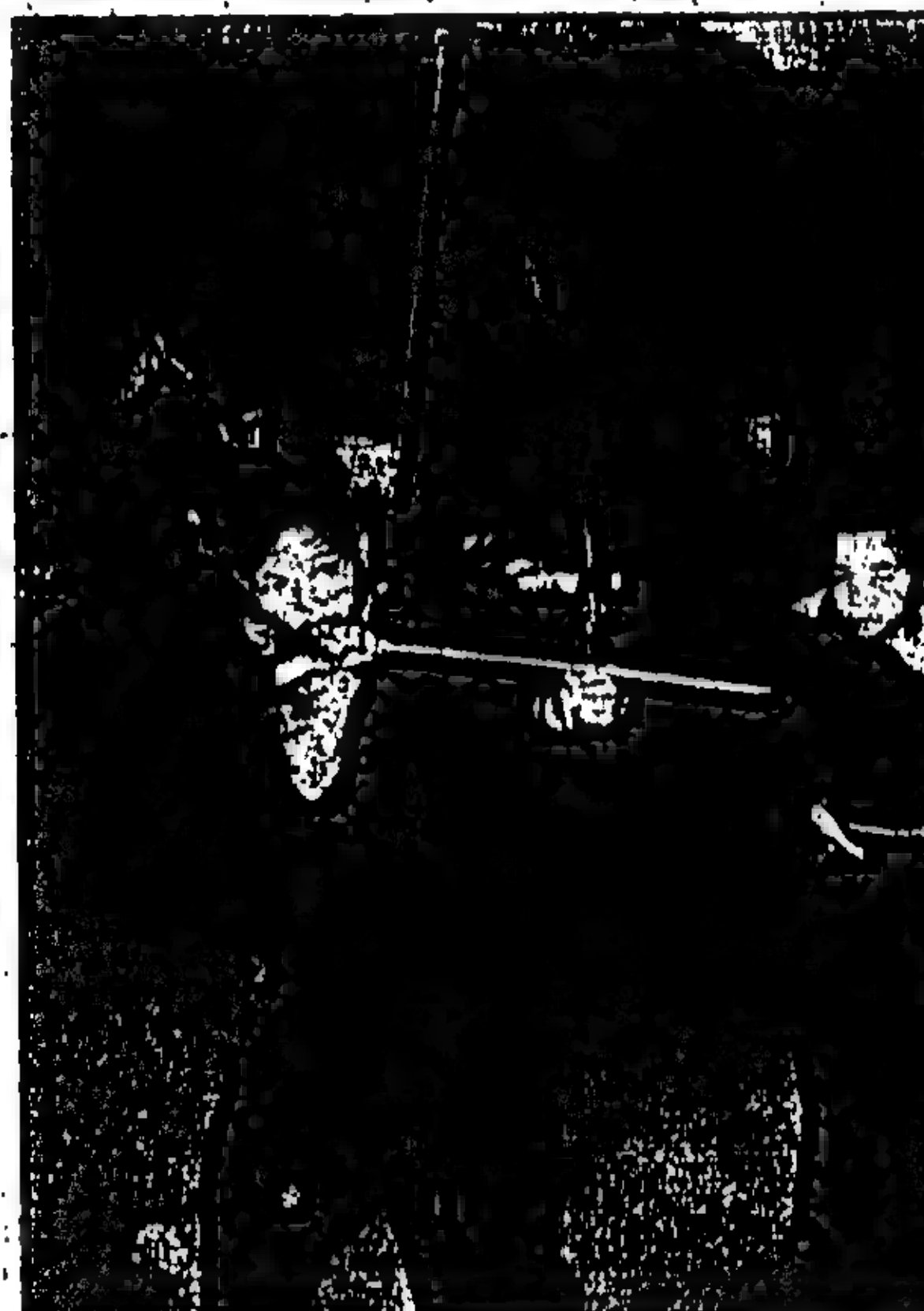
LEFT: Santa Claus calls at Defence Force Headquarters. Right: Red Cross party at the Kwong Wah Hospital. (Staff Photographer)

A WEEK OF MERRY CHILDREN'S PARTIES

Below left: Boys and Girls Clubs' party at Macpherson Playground. Centre: Party at the Tung Wah Eastern Hospital. Right: Handing out gifts at the St Andrew's Church party. (Staff Photographer)



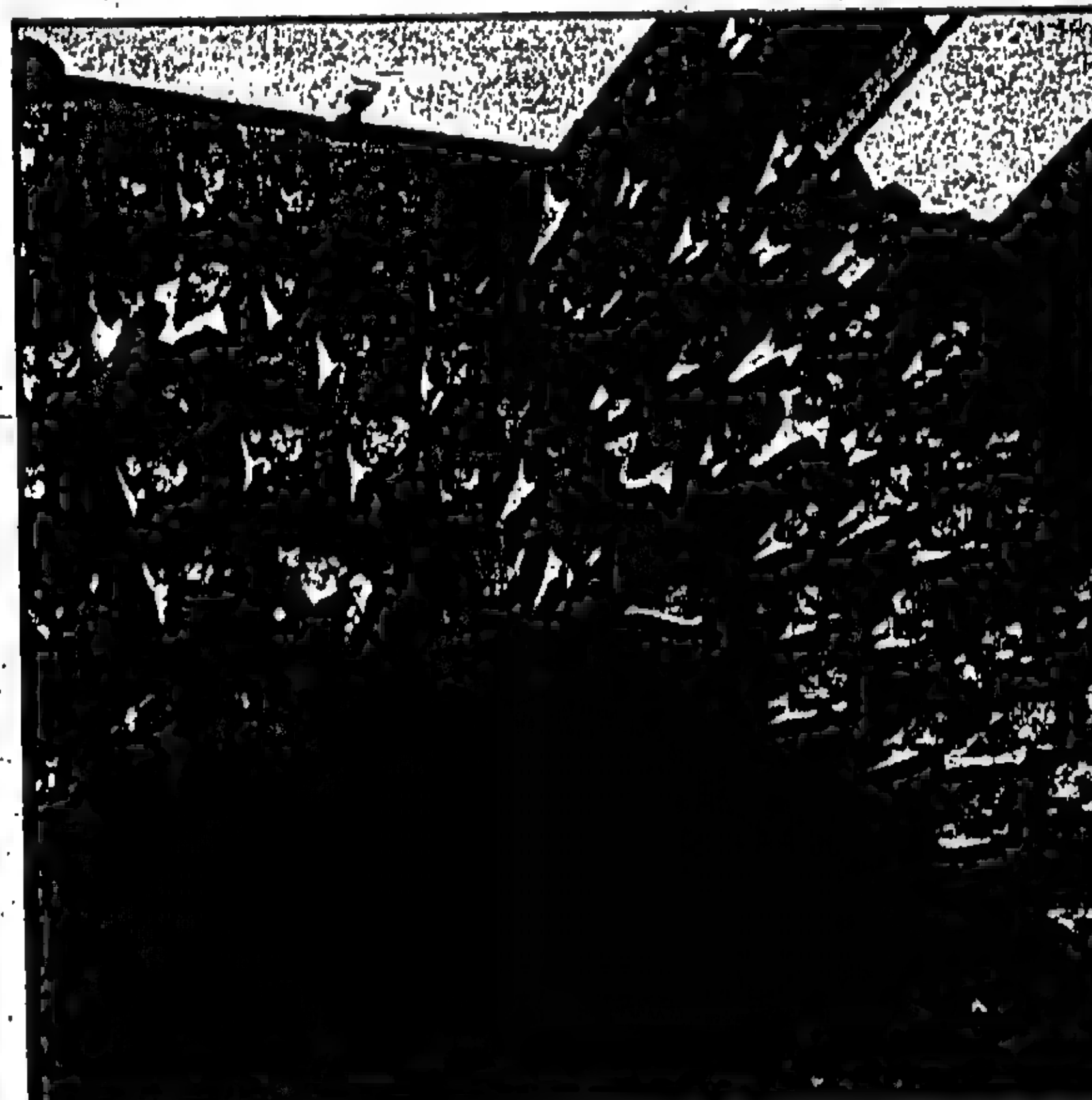
BRIDAL group taken at St Anthony's Church following the wedding of Mr Frederick Lee Sauber and Miss Dulcie Maria Barradas. (Staff Photographer)



BELOW: Striking view of the La Salle College choristers who entertained patients at various Kowloon hospitals on Tuesday evening. (Staff Photographer)



DR D. Y. Lee, President of the Hongkong Branch of the St John's University Alumni Association, and his party at the annual dance held at the Skyroom. (Staff Photographer)

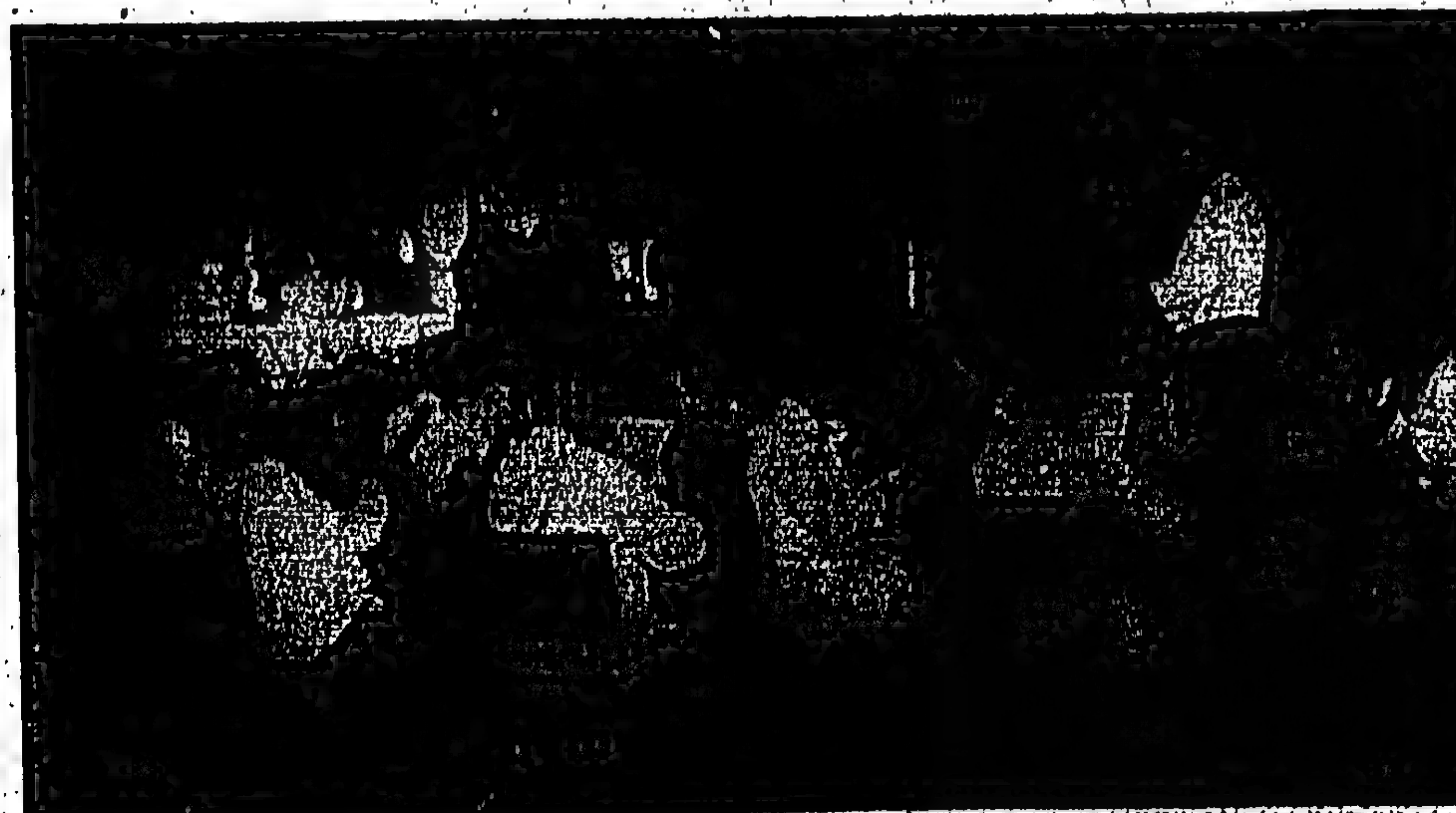


MR William Bolton Brown and Miss Margaret McKirdy with their attendants at their wedding at the Union Church. (Ming Yuen)

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MR Victor Ardy conducting the Hongkong Concert Orchestra in their annual Christmas concert given at the Ritz last Sunday. (Staff Photographer)

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DRESS UP FOR THE PARTY!

By Shirley Lowe

HAVE you been invited to a fancy dress party or a ball this Christmas? If you have, it's odds-on you are going to need a mask.

The shop-bought variety is often either too expensive or too cheap—a dowdy strip of black paper. Shaped to flatter your face, a sequined or feathered mask can be the perfect foil to a lovely woman.

These four masks are all variations of that drawn on the diagram below (a square equals one inch), and are made from heavy-quality coloured cartridge paper.

Red sequins

The SEQUINED DEVIL mask is cut from black paper. The eyes are accentuated by outlining them with emerald sequins. Make bold eyebrows from silver sequins, and cover the rest of the mask with red sequins.

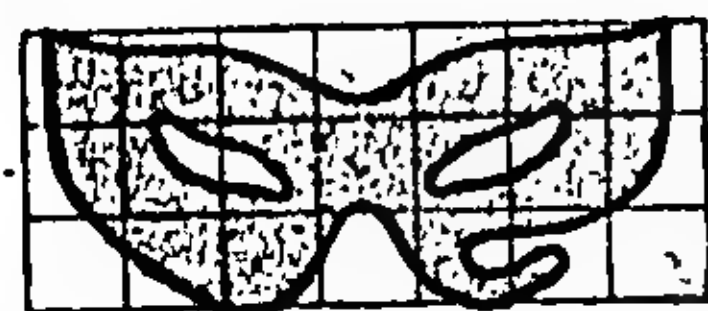
The antennae are two lengths of wire stuck behind the mask above the eyebrows and bent forward. Two scraps of black material folded cornerwise are the horns.

Dot red cartridge paper with white sequins to make the SPOTTED mask. The lashes are two small lengths of eyelash fringing, stuck to the inner side, and protruding through the eyeholes.

Finish the masks with a narrow length of black elastic to fit your head.

The cat....

To make the PETAL mask, cut a circle just a little larger than a penny from contrasting coloured paper. Cut daisy-shaped petals around, then



cut the circle in two. Stick the petals on the wrong side of the mask, push through, and curl up. Decorate with gay ribbons.

For the CAT mask, use two curly feathers sewn down by the bridge of the nose. Draw features with black paint.

Household Hint

To clean a plastic shower curtain, spread it flat on a smooth surface and sponge with mild suds and water. Rinse with clear water and hang up again to dry. Pressing is not necessary.



GIFT OF GLAMOUR FOR MOTHER

By GAY PAULEY

THE best Christmas gift Mother is to start treating her like a glamour girl instead of a drudge, says one consumer service consultant.

Mrs Clara Snyder, a peppery little woman who's been dealing with homemakers and their problems for 20 years, explained that the work of the housewife is just as full of glamour as that of any other job.

"And, preparing three meals a day calls for as much creativeness as if she were painting a picture," Mrs Snyder continued. "If a woman considers housework dull, it isn't her fault. Everyone from the husband and kids to the nation's manufacturers is to blame."

New York. "Home-making is an art, but the whole pitch used by manufacturers and advertisers is to take the drudgery out of housework."

"By the time a woman hears herself called a drudge at every turn, she begins to believe the propaganda."

Mrs Snyder, consumer service consultant for the National Association of Marketing Manufacturers, fairly beams with her own love of housework.

"There's nothing lovelier than fresh green vegetables," she said. "And did you ever see anything glisten like cake?"

Mrs Snyder would start the glamourising by changing the attitude of husbands and children.

"Let Mum turn out a tasty meal and it's gobbled up with-out a single compliment from

the family," she said. "But let the breakfast toast be burned, and boy, do you hear the gripes!"

"Mum should be appreciated first of all by her family," also sounded off against some of the nutritionists and their effect on homemaking.

"Some of us so-called experts just confuse the cook," she said. "Take dieting. One day the woman is told if she wants to lose weight she should eat only food she wants—but less of it. Next day she's advised to go on a low fat, high protein diet. And the next day, something else."

Not that Mrs Snyder is opposed to science dabbling in food.

"The nutrition field is an ever expanding one, and rightfully so," she continued. "But I lose patience with those who try to make us conform to a rigid pattern of eating."

CHRISTMAS COLOURING ADDS FESTIVE TOUCH TO FOOD

By ELIZABETH TOOMEY

RED or green sugar sprinkled on grapefruit is one simple way to carry Christmas colours to the breakfast table.

Tint granulated sugar with red or green food colouring to give it the holiday touch. Or open a tin of cranberry jelly and cut it into shapes of tiny bells, stars or Christmas trees to decorate the grapefruit.

Sometimes these easy-to-do tricks give as much of a festive touch to holi-

day meals as a recipe that takes hours to prepare. For instance, red and green soup can be turned out in a jiffy to start off an informal evening supper.

Dilute and heat a tin of green pea soup in one pan and a tin of tomato soup in another pan. With one pan in each hand, pour the two soups into the serving bowl at the same time, pouring one soup from one side of the bowl and one from the other. Each soup stays on

its own side as the bowl fills, and the result is a gay green and scarlet first course.

The children will get a big kick out of making or eating crisp chocolate Christmas wreaths. To make ten edible wreaths about three inches in diameter, use three-quarter pound semi-sweet chocolate bits and 2½ cups of ready-to-eat cereal flakes. Melt the chocolate over hot, but not boiling, water and stir in the cereal flakes. When the cereal is well coated place spoonfuls of the mixture on waxed paper and form into wreaths with two forks.

Tiny red or silver ball candies can be used to represent berries or lights. Set the wreaths in a cool place until the chocolate hardens. As a final touch, they can be tied with red ribbon bows before serving.

A good choice for holiday candy recipes is pecans. They are also good as meat extenders and in baked goods, being rich in food value as well as taste appeal.

Here's a recipe for a fruit and nut paste to add to the confection tray you'll pass to guests.

1 lb. nuts
1 lb. figs
1 lb. dates
1 cup clear-corn syrup
Juice of one orange

Grind nuts (either pecans, almonds or walnuts), figs and dates. Mix with syrup and orange juice. Knead until well mixed. Shape into small pieces, roll in granulated sugar, and place nut or candied cherry on top.

FOR THE HOLIDAY PUNCH BOWL

HOLIDAY parties are in high gear now and out comes the punch bowl, filled to the brim with a sparkling holiday punch that belies its easy preparation and moderate cost. In the freezing trays of the refrigerator are ice cubes of carbonated beverages. These do not freeze quite as hard as plain water, but take less time to freeze and as they slowly melt, they twinkle and bubble in best holiday fashion, keeping the punch lively and cold to the last drop. Carbonated ice that can be shaved or cracked in irregular pieces is also readily made by freezing the chilled beverage in a freezing tray.

Something Different

Kola Nog is something different and smooth. To serve 12 people generously, chill 12 unopened bottles of kola in the refrigerator. Pour contents of 4 chilled bottles into a freezer pan of refrigerator and freeze quickly until mushy. Whip one pint heavy cream until frothy, mix with ½ c. sugar. Scrape out frozen kola into a punch bowl, pour cream over the frozen mixture, then pour in the remaining bottles of chilled kola beverage. Stir lightly to mix, sprinkle with ½ tsp. cinnamon, and spoon mixture into punch glasses.

For a delectable punch, enough to serve 12 generously, place, unopened, in refrigerator to chill, 3 large bottles raspberry soda, one large or 3 small bottles lemon-lime soda and one large bottle cream soda. Pour contents of one quart bottle of raspberry soda into a freezing tray of the refrigerator, and freeze quickly until hard.

To Start With

Christmas Cheer (for 12) starts off with 3 large bottles ginger ale and 3 large or 3 small bottles of lemon-lime soda popping in the ice box for chilling. Pour one bottle of chilled ginger ale and one of lemon lime into separate ice cube trays. Place a green or red cherry or a chunky little orange slice in each cube and freeze as quickly as possible.

When ready to serve, put the frozen carbonated beverage cubes in a punch bowl and pour in the remaining chilled beverages. Place the punch bowl on a bed of Christmas greens, and tuck glittery gold or silver Christmas

tree balls in the greens for a festive picture. Makes about 20 glasses of punch.

ALICE DENHOFF

WHAT ABOUT SANTA CLAUS?

By GARRY C. MYERS, Ph.D.

AROUND this time of year many parents are puzzled over the matter of Santa Claus. They wonder whether it is good for the child to be encouraged to believe in this myth. Teachers in the early grades are also puzzled. While they prefer to answer the child frankly on questions he may ask about Santa Claus, they are aware that parents may be "offended" were teachers to disillusion him. Some teachers get around this problem by suggesting to the child that he direct these questions to his parents. But, as teachers and parents are slowly coming to the belief that Santa Claus belongs to the preschool age, this problem is waning to a large extent.

Santa Claus fits into the normal imagination of the young child. Around Old Saint Nick he builds a happy world. To rob him of his belief in Santa Claus would be to take away from him

several years of joyous experiences. Besides, it would make Christmas-time rather drab for his parents, older brothers, sisters and playmates as well.

Consider the fun the older child who "knows" has at keeping the younger one from being disillusioned unduly early. Of course, some older children, awaking to realities about Santa Claus, like to impress younger children with superiority. Yet in a family of happy, understanding relationships, these older children enjoy co-operating at helping the preschool child continue with his delight in Santa Claus.

Candid Answer

When each of our own children reach disillusionment, around the age of six or seven, he was asked whether we should "tell" the next younger child. "Oh, no!" always came the response with a strong feeling. And the older ones continued to hang up their stockings with the younger and to act out the myth in various other ways as long as he liked it.

But as soon as each child wanted to know if Santa Claus were a real person, we always answered candidly. "No, we have just been pretending that he is," and then we kept on pretending as long as the young inquirer wished.

We observed no evidence of shock in any of our children when disillusioned. On asking each child some years later of his experience, none indicated that he felt we had deceived him. Many years before these children had families of their own, they said they were going to have Santa Claus for their children. And all the twelve young grandchildren have experienced Santa Claus as their parents had.

Outgrowing Santa

A good way to help the young child gradually to outgrow Santa Claus is to have a few presents for him under the Christmas tree labelled as from real persons along with those marked "From Santa Claus."

We help prepare the young child to get his greatest joy from Santa Claus as we read a great deal to him from folk lore and from other sources that fire his imagination, as we enjoy his yarns of fantasy and appreciate his creations with words and things.



It's so easy... if you know how.

YES, THERE'S LIFE IN THE OLD KETTLE YET

By H. C. PIGGIN

DAMAGE to kitchen "hollow-ware," as saucepans, kettles, jugs, and so on are called, usually takes three forms: loose or entirely detached handles, dents, and leaks.

Leaks in iron utensils may be repaired, usually, by soldering, using a patch if the hole is large. But soldering is not a practical proposition for aluminium kitchenware, and we must use the screw-type "potmender."

You know the kind of thing I expect—two metal washers sandwiched between. One of each is placed on each side of the hole. The holding screw is then passed through the lot, and tightened so that the fibre is squeezed tight around the hole. In this way, the leak is effectively plugged.

You have to enlarge the original leak into a hole big enough to allow the holding screw of "mender" to pass through, of course.

Dents are easy to remove. Simply tap them gently from the inside. An "egg-shaped" mallet is the correct tool for the job, but you can manage with the ball end of an engineer's hammer. One warning: avoid pushing the dent out the other way.

To prevent such a mishap, rest the pointed portion of the work on the bench, or a block of wood, and rock it gently to and fro as you tap.

The handle which is parting company from the saucepan is usually fixed with rivets, which are hammered or squeezed so as to give a "head" on each side.

Examine each rivet carefully. If it protrudes well through the work and is reasonably tight in its hole, it will probably be good enough to tighten it by a few taps from the hammer. If the rivets are slack in the holes or too short for hammering, then they must be punched out and replaced either by small nuts and bolts or by new rivets.

To make a decent job of riveting-up requires a little expert knack. The rivet should be a good fit in the hole, and the shank should not protrude too much.

We usually leave about one and a half times the shank diameter, i.e., with a ¼-in. shank about 3-16 in. should be left sticking up. The rest may be back-sawed or filed away.

Place the machined head of the rivet on the inside of the work, and support it firmly on a piece of iron pipe, or a second hammer, held in the vice.

Hit firmly with the flat side of the riveting hammer directly on to the top of the protruding rivet shank, so as to expand it into a "nut" or "mushroom."

When it has lightened to the work, shape the corners of the "mushroom" so as to round it off into a neat head.

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FIFTY YEARS OF FLYING

Reminiscences Of A Pioneer Pilot

By SIR THOMAS SOPWITH,
OBE, FR Ae S.

It was in 1910, when I was 22, that I made my first flight. In the autumn I bought the first monoplane made by Howard Wright, who, incidentally, was not connected with the American Wright brothers. Although I had never flown before, I felt confident that I could do so and, on October 22, decided to take the aeroplane up on its first test flight.

I discovered that my faith was justified. I could fly—but not very far! After covering some 300 yards, I pulled the stick back too hard and the machine shot up to about 40 feet, stalled, and crashed, breaking the airscrew, undercarriage and one wing.

This slight setback did not deter me, and it was not long before I bought the first Howard-Wright biplane. This had an E.N.V. engine similar to that in the monoplane but developing 60 h.p. instead of only 40.

On November 21 I took the aeroplane out and spent the morning taxi-ing (or rolling as it was then called) and later did some short straight flights. During the afternoon I made a few circuits and afterwards qualified for my R.A.C. Aviation Certificate, which was number 31.

First Passenger

LATER in the same day I found some trusting person who was prepared to fly with me and thus I was able to take up my first passenger.

This new experience of being able to fly was one of the most exhilarating things that had ever happened to me. I seized every opportunity to get into the air and by the time I had 10 hours' flying behind me I began to feel that I was a really experienced pilot.

Col. S. F. Cody had just set up British distance and duration records of 94½ miles in 2 hours 24 minutes, and I thought that something should be done about it and made all preparations (which were not many). On the first attempt I was fortunate enough to cover a distance of 107 miles in 3 hours and 12 minutes.

After this I began to think about the contest for a prize of £4,000 offered by Baron de Forest for the longest flight to be made from England to Europe in a British machine before the end of the year, the distance to be measured in a straight line. There were seven entrants—and I took off from

Eastchurch at 8.30 a.m. on Sunday, December 10. Thirteen minutes later I passed over Dover and 22 minutes after this crossed the French coast near Cape Gris Nez. I had hoped to land at Chalon but my compass failed and I tried to steer by the sun. However, this soon went out and I began to lose direction, crossing over the Belgian frontier. I found myself in hilly country where the air was very bumpy and on one occasion was thrown off my seat. It seemed to me that the time had come to make a landing, which I did at Beaumont, 100 miles in a straight line from Eastchurch.

Record Set

ALTHOUGH this was my first across country flight, it won the Baron de Forest prize and set up a British record for distance flown in a straight line which remained unbeaten for four years.

In the following year I went to America with my biplane and a 70 h.p. Gnome—engine "Bleriot," took part in many of the flying competitions which were being held in the principal cities there. During my tour I met several of the pioneers whose names are now legend—such people as the Wright brothers, Curtiss and Stirling Burgess.

On my return I continued to fly as much as possible and also undertook the testing of the new Martin and Handasyde monoplane.

Eventually I began to develop an interest in design and construction work. My first aeroplane was a 3-seater tractor biplane with a 70 h.p. Gnome engine. Not only did I succeed in building and flying it, but, much more important, even managed to sell it to the Royal Navy. It was kept at Eastchurch for many years where its main job was to make regular flights from Eastchurch to Whitstable to collect oysters for the officers' mess. From this machine the long line of Sopwith types was developed.

Like Gliding

PEOPLE often ask me what flying was like in those early days. I have never been up in a glider, but from what I am told it seems to me that this is the nearest approach it is possible to get to the way in which we used to fly. In gliding one keeps just above the stall—and that is all wise pilots ever did with the early aeroplanes. The whole of the time was spent in nursing the power along to avoid engine failure.

I know I always flew as slowly as possible and am sure that many of the pioneers lost their lives simply because they could not resist the temptation to open up and go a bit faster. One difficulty we had to contend with was the absence of any form of air speed indicator.

Recently I flew a Gloster 7, and I thought—at the time

On December 17, 1903, the brothers Orville and Wilbur Wright made the first successful flight in a powered aeroplane. Progress since then has been phenomenal. Flying has changed our mode of living and influenced our thoughts and actions. The two articles on this page were specially written to mark this half century.

how very different things were. With such bags of power you cannot go wrong, but can do anything you like, knowing that the aeroplane will not let you down. This is, of course, only true once you are in the air, for very different and more difficult techniques are needed for take off and landing.

Everything is done very much faster, which means that you have less time to think and also means that if you do crash you do more damage. In the old days we used to crash a lot, but always just stood up, shook the wreckage off and walked away. Crashing did not seem to hurt much because we did it so nicely and slowly.

Even spectacular crashes often used to have happy endings, and I believe that I am one of the few living people ever to have spun into the ground. This was with a 70 "Bleriot" which I was flying with a passenger. At quite a fair height we got into a spin and although eventually went right into the deck we both got up and walked away. At the time we did not realise that it was a spin, for this unpleasant manoeuvre had not even been named, although a short time later spin was tracked down as a direct result of an accident to one of my aeroplanes. This was a side-by-side dual control machine which I designed and built for Mr Winston Churchill when he was First Lord of the Admiralty.

The Spin

SQ-LDR. Spencer Grey and Jerry Aldwell, who was a R.N. Engineer Officer, were flying this machine at Eastchurch when they got into a spin and went into the ground. This led to a series of enquiries into a number of accidents that had happened. It was discovered that pilots were flying about 80 m.p.h. in an aeroplane which stalled at about 50 m.p.h. and had pulled the stick hard back. To their amazement the next second they found themselves spinning rapidly earthwards, and thought it was most unfair.

As a result of these enquiries, the nature of a spin, and what brought it about, was determined, and pilots then began to learn how to avoid it. Ability to fly is one of those things, like swimming, which you never quite lose. Shortly after the beginning of the 1914-18 war I was so occupied with design and manufacture that I just didn't have the time to fly and did not pilot an aeroplane for about 16 years. I then built a prototype trainer, the "Tomtit."

I was at Brooklands one morning when George Borman, our chief test pilot, was going to fly the machine to Martlesham. In a weak moment I told him that I would fly the machine, with him as passenger. By the time I had dressed myself up I began to think better of it and said: "George, you had better take her off."

While we were taxi-ing it was necessary to make a right turn at the end of Brooklands, and it will be realised how much I had forgotten when I say that I nearly suggested to Borman that he was trying to turn against the tide, because I noticed his right foot being pushed forward. It seems incredible that I should have forgotten the elementary fact that aeroplanes are the only vehicles in which to turn right you push right.

Differences

WHEN the aeroplane was in the air I took over and in matter of seconds the feel of everything came back and I managed to make a successful, if somewhat "porky," landing at Martlesham.

Another of the great differences between the old days and the present is the speed with which constructional things were done. This was well shown with the special Sopwith "Tabloid," with which England won her first contest for the Schneider Trophy.

We had received an order for twelve single-seater scouts for the R.F.C. and it was decided to modify one to compete. In its original form this aeroplane had a central float which was installed too far aft. Three days before we were due to ship the aeroplane to Monte Carlo it had not flown.

Howard Pixton was the pilot and on the first attempt to fly, at Hamble, the machine cartwheeled over on to its nose and sank. At daylight next morning we salvaged the aeroplane, took it to Kingston by road, sawed the single float into two, built two new sides and installed a twin-float chassis. We flew it off, this time successfully. From the time it was at the bottom of Hamble river until it was airborne again was less than three days.

Built By Eye

YOU could not begin to do things like this today; in fact, you could hardly get the design work started. In those days all you had to do was to rough out a scheme on the back of an envelope, show it to those who were going to do the job and they then started right away.

It is interesting that up to the time that I received the first contract for the "Tabloids" for the Army, none of my aeroplanes, and so far as I know, no one else's was ever stressed. All of them were built by eye and we had no idea of the factors—except that they were more than one! I have always maintained that if an aeroplane looks right, it generally is right, although at the same time this must not be carried too far. It was all a very different picture to a modern conception, which has to go through the fine mesh sieve of the design and stores officers. But, bless you, it was fun!

The Dream Of The Wright Brothers

By JOHN W. R. TAYLOR

WHAT are our thoughts as we pay tribute to the memory of Orville and Wilbur Wright, first men to fly in a powered aeroplane, at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, just fifty years ago? Do we look at the letters from far-off friends and the delicacies on our breakfast table and reflect that many of them came to us by air? Do we recall the scores of ways in which aviation—the legacy of the Wrights—is making life easier and more enjoyable for all of us? Or do we think first of a mushroom-shaped cloud of atomic dust over a dead city?

It is easy to blame the aeroplane for so much misery in a dozen wars. But is it fair? Do we let the memory of near starvation by German U-boat blockade twice in a generation blind us to the joys of a lazy afternoon in a punt on the river? Does our family car seem less of a friend because armoured cars and tanks have played their part in war? Or do we face the embarrassing truth that the blame lies not with aeroplanes or cars or boats but inside ourselves?

What a Dream!

HAS there ever been a great invention that man has not tried to fashion into an implement of war? Even the parachute, designed to save life, supported bombs, mines and flares as often as men between 1939 and 1945. No wonder Orville Wright remarked sadly: "What a dream it was; what a nightmare it has become."

War and destruction were far from his mind and from that of his brother when they forged man's first wings in their little bicycle shop at Dayton, Ohio, at the beginning of the century.

Their father was a bishop, and they were far removed from the devil-may-care enthusiasts who had been hurling themselves from cliffs and towers for generations, wearing wings of feather and wood. They learned much from Otto Lilienthal, the great Austrian pioneer who made hundreds of flights in his beautiful bat-wing gliders before he was killed in 1896, and from his disciples, Octave Chanute of America and Englishman Percy Pilcher.

There were the careful, orderly minds of born engineers. Before attempting to rush into the air, they flew their first primitive gliders as kites, at the end of ropes by which they

measured the lift produced by wind passing over the wings. When they found that almost every scrap of data handed down by their predecessors was wrong, they built a wind tunnel from an old starch-box, tested in it hundreds of tiny wings of different shapes and sizes, and worked out new tables of data before resuming their flights.

A Milestone

FOR three years they patiently improved their gliders, until, in December 1903, they decided they knew enough to build a powered aeroplane. There were no suitable engines available, so they built their own, and designed their own propellers. Nor were they unduly excited or surprised on December 17 when Orville left the ground at the start of that first, historic 12-second flight, because they knew by then that flight was possible and regarded success as a mere milestone in their experiments.

It was a milestone and, by 1908, Orville and Wilbur were able to fly regularly for an hour at a time in improved versions of the 1903 slick-and-string biplane. In an era when French, British and other American aviators were still delighted if they achieved ungainly hops a few feet above the ground.

But the Wright biplane killed almost everyone who flew it, and, by 1914, was virtually forgotten.

The work of the Wright Brothers lives on, however, in the giant wind tunnels and test rigs which are playing so great a part today in our conquest of space and time. They showed that the way to the stars demanded science as well as courage, and this prescription is as vital today as in 1903. Furthermore, they provided the inspiration that prompted men like Volsin and Bleriot in France, A.V. Roe in England and Glenn Curtiss in America to build and fly aeroplanes of better design.

Simple Faith

SO, from the simple faith of the Wrights have come—the 1,200 m.p.h. research aircraft and the jetliners of today; and all the light planes, the helicopters, bombers, fighters and flying boats; the rockets, guided missiles and the space ships of tomorrow.

No greater tribute has been paid to them than the words of another gallant American, Charles Lindbergh, first man to fly alone from New York, across the Atlantic to Paris 28 years ago. Speaking before one of the greatest designers of today, he said: "The dream of the Wright brothers was to build a power-driven aeroplane, and to fly it successfully. They accomplished that dream; and we, their disciples, have perfected it to a high degree. Now we are faced with a different problem. How are these perfected aircraft to be used for the benefit of man? The Wright brothers balanced success with modesty, science with simplicity. They represented man in balance. And from that balance came wings to lift a world."

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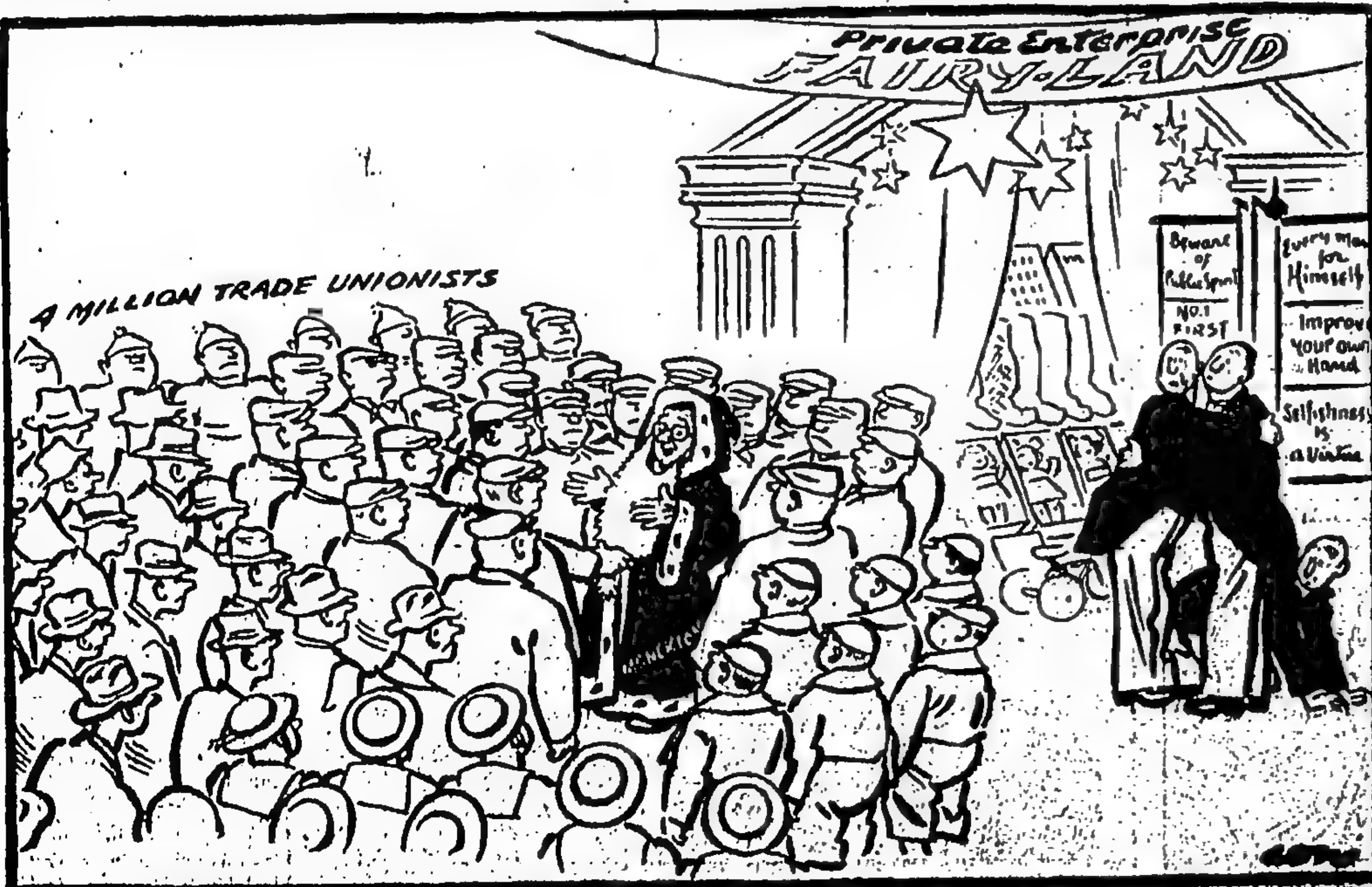
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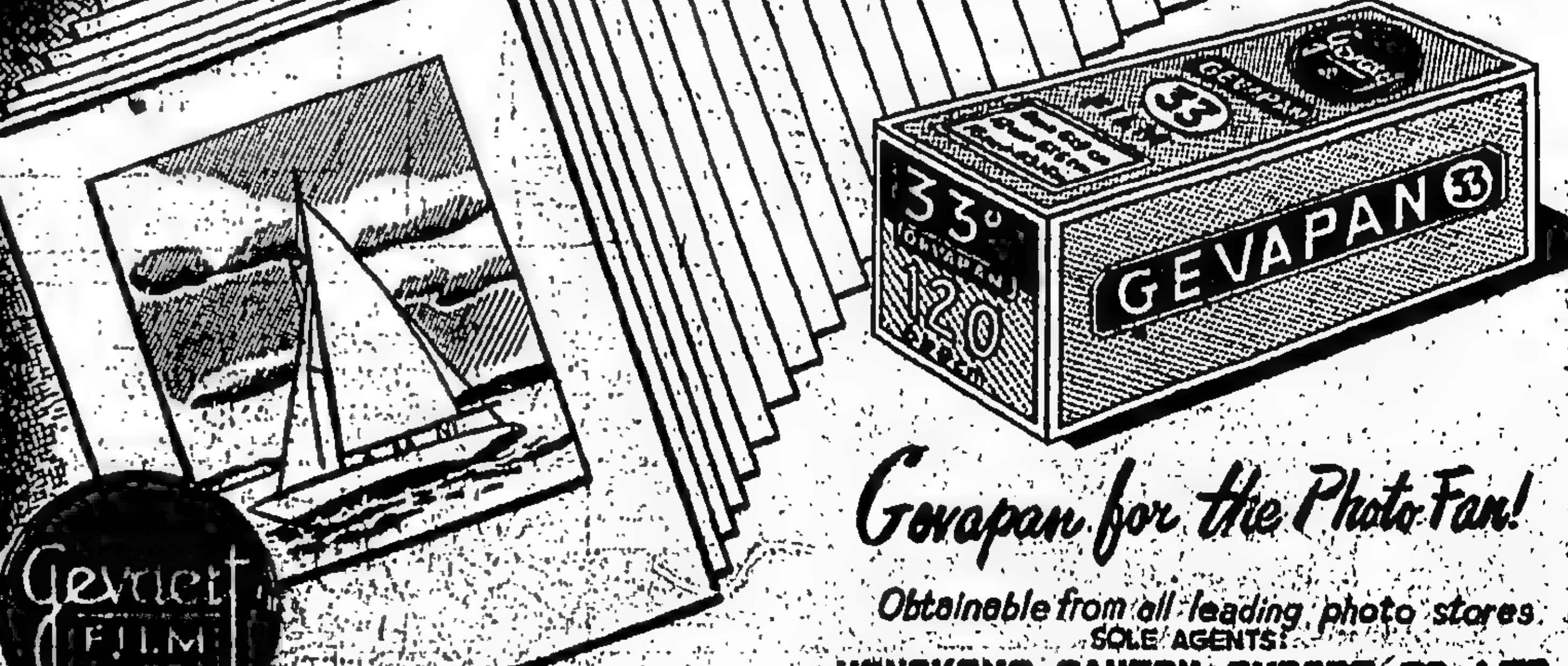
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BARBS

By HAL COCHRAN

YOUNG married couples should start life in a small house, says an architect. Not much room for argument there!

The boy who took his watch apart to see how it worked is now the man who takes his car apart to see why it doesn't work.

Wind is produced by difference in atmospheric pressure—or by asking a man about his golf game.

NOTHING is a greater menace to good government than tax

dodgers, says a banker. Unless it's tax spenders.

If you meet a bear, advises a Canadian wildlife expert, just walk away and the bear will do likewise. But which way?

If you want a hole drilled in your patience, just stop and talk to a bore.

A man was recently pinched for blowing his car horn for 20 minutes. It never pays to go on a toot.

The only one who gets anything for a song these days is a composer.

The middle-of-the-road policy is okay in some cases, but not with speeding drivers.

ABOUT the only thing a thoroughly stingy person ever gives away is himself.

Dice were used in the early Roman era, and the world is still shaking.

An ostrich thinks he's out of sight when he puts his head into the sand—like some men when they put in a new hat.

Four Indiana teen-agers were caught plastering schoolroom walls with tomatoes. Now they're in a stew.

With both women and motor cars the paint conceals the years, but the lines give them away.

New shoes hurt when they're too small, or when you have to buy them for the whole family at one time.

A New York man in the soup business left \$50,000 to relatives who now are in the gravy.

WHEN the average youngster knows all the answers, no wonder he's called a problem child.

The modern girl's motto is every man for herself.

According to statistics—and figures—the average woman eats less than the average man.

Keeping a machine well oiled results in its making less noise. That's not true of most humans.

More men are wearing suspenders, according to a news item. Nice to hear of one thing that's holding up.

According to some women, the only taste a man has is in his mouth.

A BOOK TO TALK ABOUT By MILTON SHULMAN

The Life And Bad Times Of George Orwell

GEORGE ORWELL never forgave himself for being born into the middle class. He spent much of his life trying to live it down.

"If there is one man to whom I feel myself inferior, it is the coal miner," he said, indicating the class he most admired.

Using his conscience like a battering ram, he tried to break through the ring of prejudice and hypocrisy that encrusted the thinking of his time.

In "England Your England" (Secker and Warburg, 12s. 6d.), another posthumous collection of his essays, we can see again this cold, impatient mind analysing such hallmarks of his class as nationalism, anti-Semitism, snobishness, and prudery.

EXHILARATING

INTELLECTUALS are as readily assaulted as Colonel Blimps. In fact, Orwell loved facing both directions because it gave him more to hit at.

It is an exhilarating experience watching his sparse, antiseptic prose dissolving pomposity, sham, and false logic. He does not realise, however, that truth no longer solves problems; it is only another argument.

George Orwell, whose real name was Eric Blair, was born in Bengal in 1903, and early in his childhood discovered the humiliation of genteel poverty.

His father, a minor official in the Indian Customs, had retired on a small pension and could not pay the full fees necessary to keep his son at an English preparatory school.

This meant that the leech cakes other boys received on their birthdays were never given to him.

A scholarship enabled Orwell to go to Eton, where he claims to have learned little. Instead of continuing his education at Cambridge, he went to Burma as a policeman. He was there for five years.

WEAK, UGLY

ORWELL had no glowing memories of his youth. "I had no money," he said. "I was weak, I was ugly, I was unpopular, I had a chronic cough, I was cowardly, I smelled...."

The conviction that it was not possible for me to be a success went deep enough to in-

fluence my actions till far on into adult life."

He returned to England not only convinced of his own worthlessness but with a gulf complex about the brutality of the police and the official administration in Burma.

Almost as a form of expiation, he plunged into the lowest and dirtiest form of life he could find. He did the meanest jobs in French restaurants, begged on the streets, lived like a tramp in London.

Even, in this extremity, bleeding told. When a bug fell into the milk on which he had spent his last centimes, he poured it sadly away.

GENTLENESS

HIS driving conscience next took him to the Spanish Civil War, where he fought with the Anarchists. Even this embittering experience could not harden his gentle humanity.

Once, as a sniper, he saw one of the enemy leap up in full view and run along a parapet. The man was half-dressed and was holding up his trousers as he ran. Orwell did not shoot.

"I had come here to shoot at Fascists," he explained, "but a man who is holding up his trousers isn't a Fascist; he is visibly a fellow-creature, similar to yourself and you don't feel like shooting at him."

Eventually a bullet passed right through his throat, missing his windpipe by a fraction of an inch. The wound ended his fighting, and left his rather flat voice with a curious cracked quality.

HOME GUARD

THE next time he was in uniform it was for a more orthodox cause. He went into the Home Guard and was interviewed as a potential N.C.O.

Asked about his experience of soldiering, he told the interviewing officer he had fought in the Spanish Civil War. What side?

"I'm sorry," said the officer, "we feel you'd be happier in the ranks."

As Orwell was leaving, the officer asked: "By the way, what school were you at?"

"My dear chap, you're just the type we need for N.C.O.s." Just as Burma had disillusioned him about Imperialism, so did Spain disillusion him about Communism. In 1944 he wrote his masterpiece, "Animal Farm."

It is a brilliant satire on dictatorship, with the bite and

imagination of "Gulliver's Travels."

When a farmyard of animals revolts against the farmer, their battle cry is "All Animals Are Equal." Not long after the revolution, this principle has been qualified to "But Some Animals Are More Equal Than Others."

He followed this in 1940 with his relentless and terrifying novel, "1984." This horrified look of an authoritarian State of the future has the stifling quality of a nightmare.

"It wouldn't have been so gloomy," he said, "if I hadn't been so ill."

FAMOUS

FOR ten years Orwell had been earning less than £3 a week from his writing. "Animal Farm," which sold 750,000 copies, and "1984," which has sold over 350,000 copies, made him rich and famous.

He did not enjoy success very long. He died early in 1950 with a request in his will that no biography should be written of him. It was a cry for peace at least in the grave.

DOCTORS COIN A WORD

By CHAPMAN PINCHER

DOCTORS have coined a new word to cover the fact that they sometimes cause their patients unnecessary suffering through carelessness or callousness.

The word is *iatrogenic* (pronounced eye-at-roj-en-ick), and it means "caused by a doctor."

It comes from the Greek "iatros," a physician.

The medical profession is recognising that many cases of "high blood pressure" are *iatrogenic*. Symptoms resembling those of genuine high blood pressure develop after patients have been scared into believing they have high blood pressure by misinterpreting what doctors have told them.

Now a medical report has appeared on "Iatrogenic Heart Disease"—pains, palpitation, and other disturbing symptoms which arise from fright experienced by nervous patients in doctors' consulting rooms.

THE PASSING YEAR

HAS A NEW ERA OPENED?

By Weston Dark

1953! A year that

in the history books of the future will receive plenty of attention. Has a new era opened or has the chance for peace and prosperity been lost? At the height of summer hopes ran high: a new Queen had been crowned, peace had come to Korea, Russia appeared to have changed her tune, and—a symbol of the time—Mount Everest had at last been climbed.

Came the autumn—and the melancholy of that season began to shroud the achievements of the summer. The glory seemed so far away, and the future again grim. Churchill seemed to be fighting a losing battle for informal talks with Russia; a permanent settlement for Korea seemed impossible. But whatever the future 1953 contained more significant events than any year since the war.

★

It began with disasters. The great North Sea Floods put 250,000 acres in Britain under water, caused 307 deaths and did £45,000,000 worth of damage in the United Kingdom alone. In Holland the same gales and tides were even more severe; there the death toll rose to 2,000. Six months later Nature struck again—this time in Greece where sudden earthquakes destroyed towns on the Ionian islands and killed over 1,000 people.

But between these two tragedies lay the happiest six months of the year. In January and February politically the world seemed much the same. Churchill had paid a prestige visit to Washington. The Kremlin had arrested nine Russian doctors and accused them of murdering Zhdanov. In France a prolonged Cabinet crisis had left M. Mayer unsteadily in power. Another tanker, the *Milvella*, had been shipping Anglo-Iranian oil from Abadan. Deadlock with Egypt

★

continued. In Germany High Commissioner Sir Ivoe Kirkpatrick revealed an alleged neo-Nazi plot.

And then—on March 6—Joseph Stalin died in his four-room flat in the Kremlin.

It took the world by surprise. He had ruled Russia for 25 years. His death had untold possibilities. Within a few days Russia was changing her tune: the arrested Russian doctors were exonerated, nine British civilians interned in North Korea were released, and Communist China climbed down on the F.W. issue in Korea and peace talks were resumed.

Diplomats everywhere in the West were dumbfounded; it was left to Sir Winston Churchill to take action and call for informal talks with Russia at the highest level.

Meanwhile, in other fields events were moving to a climax too. Led by Colonel John Hunt a British expedition was preparing to make yet another attempt on the highest mountain in the world, Everest. Despite eight previous attacks the mountain remained unconquered; there seemed no special reason why the climbers should succeed now.

In London passersby stopped suddenly in the Mall outside Marlborough House; a bulletin informed them that Queen Mary who had seen her father-in-law, husband, son and now granddaughter all on the throne of England lay seriously ill. On March 23 she died and thousands watched in silence a memorial procession from the stands being erected for her granddaughter's Coronation.

★

But Queen Mary would have wanted nothing to mar the eager preparations for that great day. Towards the end of May when a Big Three conference had been called at Bermuda to discuss among other things Russia's new attitude, when almost forgotten in the desolate Himalayas Colonel Hunt's climbers were now making their final assaults on the Everest summit. Coronation visitors from the Commonwealth and provinces had arrived in such force in London that traffic had been brought almost to a standstill.

On Tuesday June 2 Elizabeth II was crowned and news from Nepal stated that New Zealander Edmund Hillary and Tensing, a Sherpa porter, had climbed Everest. A week later an agreement on POW repatriation was signed at Panmunjom and a full armistice in Korea seemed imminent in a few days. On June 15, as though to confirm the happier relations between East and West, Russia sent a cruiser to the British Coronation Naval Review and her sailors were given a tumultuous welcome.

But that was the zenith of those happier days this last summer. Admittedly there were achievements to follow: peace did come to Korea in spite of Syngman Rhee's attempts to sabotage it. Malenkov disposed of the sinister Beria, and the ride of Dr Mossadegh, the world air speed record was broken three times in as many weeks, and England regained the Ashes from the Australian cricketers for the first time since 1929. And Gordon Richards, who at Coronation time became the first jockey to be knighted, had won the Derby at last!

★

But the mood had changed. Churchill and Eden were both ill and out of action, the prospect of talks with Russia faded, France was hit by almost a General Strike, trouble broke out in British Guiana, and Korea became again the subject of interminable debate. Russian goodwill seemed to have evaporated; autumn came and Londoners took to little game masks to ward off the effect of poisonous fog.

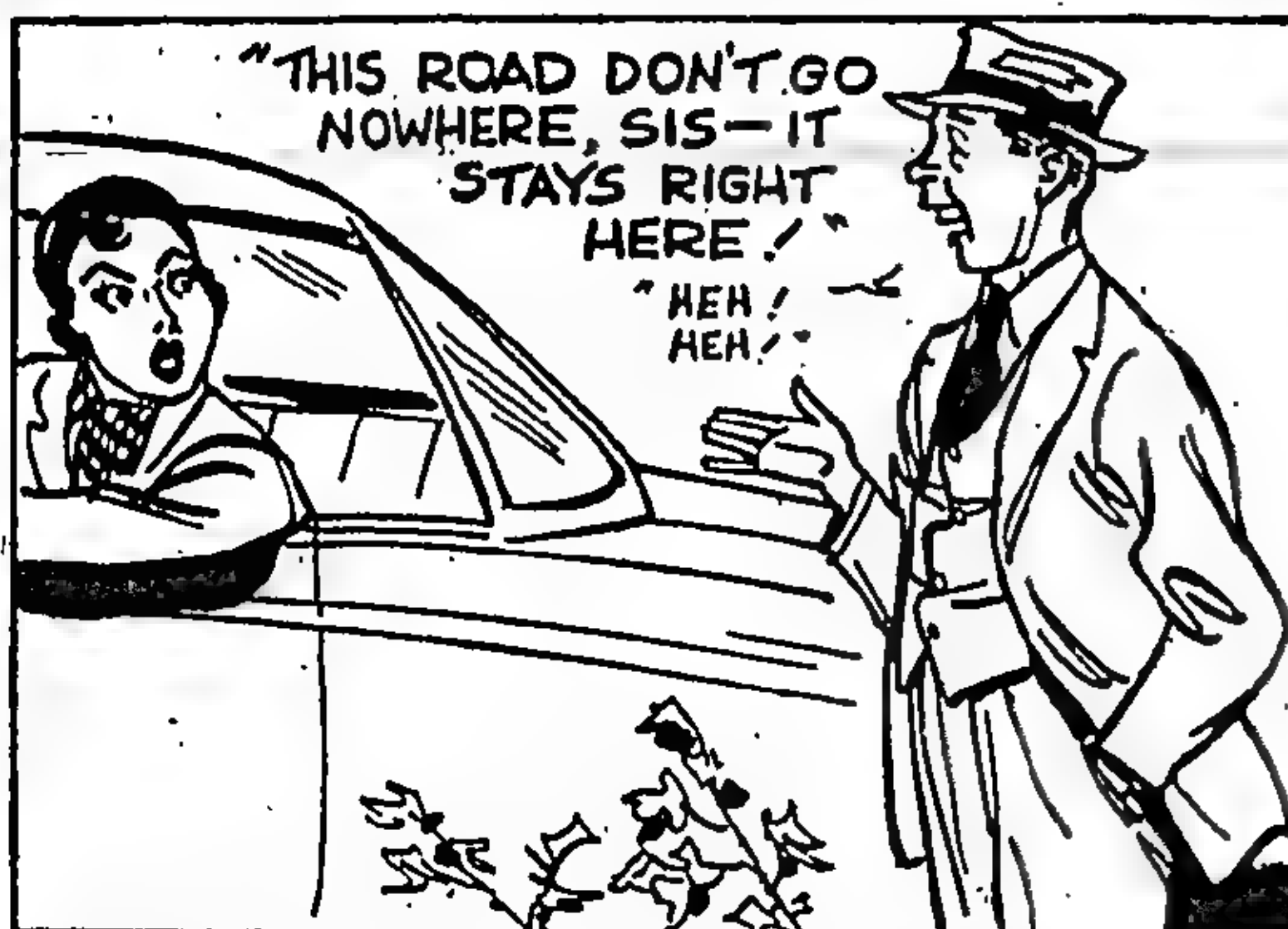
And so the year goes out exhausted. The historians will have to decide what its really significant happenings were, but some memories will at least be permanent. The "Welcome Home" parties given by towns and villages all over the free world for the local heroes who returned from prison camps in North Korea, the last over in the final Test match at the Oval, the Queen of Tonga delaying the rain on Coronation Day and insisting on an open carriage, the Queen's coronation being crowned, at the altar of Westminster Abbey.

New faces have appeared on the scene—Eisenhower, Malenkov, and for the British Commonwealth a new Queen. In her we see our hope of a "new Elizabethan age." The year ahead may show whether the promise of that phrase can be fulfilled.

VIGNETTES OF LIFE

How To Charm People

BY HARRY WEINERT



WHEN SOMEONE ASKS A SERIOUS QUESTION AND EXPECTS A CIVIL ANSWER—DRAG OUT ALL THE WORN-OUT JOKES.



BARGE RIGHT IN ON EVERYBODY'S CONVERSATION—SET THEM 'RIGHT' ON THE SUBJECT AND THEN WALK OUT ON THEM.



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THE CHINA MAIL'S WEEKEND LOCAL SPORTS PARADE

Pegasus Cricket XI Includes County Players And Varsity Blues

By "THE ZOMBIE"

Quite a number of the Colony's leading cricketers will receive with mixed feelings of relief and disappointment the news that the visiting Pegasus Football team will be matched against a Hongkong Cricket Club XI in a one-day match on Sunday, January 3 — relief in that they won't have to spend some time at the nets during the Christmas and New Year festivities and disappointment in the fact that they will not have the opportunity of playing against some of the best English cricketers.

However, there is a very good reason why the visitors will not be pitted against a Hongkong XI. They requested a game just for recreational purposes to break the monotony of their soccer routine.

Pegasus have quite a number of prominent cricketers in their midst. At the head of them are Leslie Compton, the Middlesex County cricketer and brother of Denis Compton, and D. B. Carr, who toured India with the MCC in 1951-1952 as Vice-Captain and who captained England

against India in the fifth Test Match at Madras. The following are the cricketers in the team: Leslie Compton; Middlesex County cricketer; D. B. Carr; Oxford cricket Blue and 1950 captain. Played in Victory Test Match in 1949

Toured India with MCC in 1951-1952 as Vice-Captain, and captained England v. India in 5th Test Match at Madras. County Cap for Derbyshire in 1951.

F. C. M. Alexander; Cambridge Cricket Blue in 1952 and 1953 as wicketkeeper. G. H. McKenna; Oxford Cricket Blue in 1953 as opening bowler.

H. W. Joynt; A prominent cricketer.

M. T. Robinson; Has played cricket for Sussex.

C. G. Tordoff; Cambridge Blue in 1952. Awarded County Cap by Somerset in 1952.

R. C. Vowles; Plays cricket for Cambridge Crusaders.

K. A. Shearwood; Has played cricket for Derbyshire.

J. D. P. Tanner; Prominent cricketer as well as a good tennis player.

H. A. Pawson; Oxford Cricket Blue and captained Oxford in 1948, scoring a century. Played for Gentlemen v. Players in 1947.

H. J. Potts; Oxford Blue in 1950—has played for Lancashire. The Hongkong Cricket Club team will be chosen from T. A. Pearce, R. W. Franklin, I. L. Stanton, K. G. Spink, H. Owen-Hughes, L. Kilbee, R. Hughes, D. W. Leach, F. A. Weller, R. McPherson, G. T. Rowe, and G. H. P. Pritchard.

To the best of my knowledge there will be no League matches during the week-end, but instead two annual matches have been scheduled. On Christmas Day, Indian Recreation Club will have their annual match between the under 38s and over 38s and on Boxing Day there will be the annual game between the married and single at Craigengower Cricket Club.

I know that many real sportsmen were appalled by what they saw and I believe that many of our top officials were deeply concerned by the whole affair.

One thing alone is definite. We must not see such a thing again. The Association must ensure that officials are again reminded of the imperative necessity of stamping out rough play as soon as it starts.

Another display like we had last week may well see us with a major tragedy on our hands, and we are fortunate indeed that we didn't have one last week.

Incidentally, many folks consider that all the trouble could have been prevented if a strong referee had been selected for this particular game. I heard several names actually mentioned AFTER the game. What a pity the local Association had not given the subject earlier thought. The fallacy of the present rota system is plainly obvious to all, and all the trouble from it is not 'over in the Valley'.

MUCH SPECULATION

A great deal of speculation has gone on regarding the selection of the various teams to oppose Pegasus next week. It has even been suggested that, as a policy of appeasement and to improve "financial prospects," changes may be made in the various teams.

The full significance of such a step must be considered for the teams for the first two games were selected by the new Selection Committee which included the Chairman of the Association.

Any change which is made in the line virtually means a change in the committee AS A WHOLE, and the committee as a whole would, in fairness to its members, be virtually compelled to resign after less than two weeks in office and without being given any chance to prove that their selections are the right ones for the job on hand.

If they are later shown to have done a bad job, then by all means throw them out, but it is inconceivable that, having been given the task of picking these teams, they should be placed in the present impossible position before their work is proved one way or the other on the field of play.

There is an excellent programme of games this week-end and the fans will have



Mr R. W. Dilley's Flx Bayonets and his jockey, J. Goodgame, crash during the Regent Novices' Hurdle Race at the Sandown Park on December 10. — Reuterphoto.

I.M. MacTAVISH'S Soccer Spot

THE BALL HAS A WAY OF BECOMING AN UNNECESSARY AND INCIDENTAL ITEM

This is the season of Goodwill but it was indeed hard to appreciate this at the meeting of South China and Sing Tao when the only generosity was extended by the referee.

The last few days have seen tremendous activities behind the scenes in our local football and so much high policy and finance has been discussed that few people have given the thought and attention they should to last Saturday's shocking exhibition of rough play and points desperation.

It was obvious from the start of this game that only the strictest handling would save the contest from deteriorating into a 'battle royal'. Unfortunately the referee saw fit to take a lenient view of the early incidents and these soon grew in severity and frequency until the match degenerated into a series of personal feuds with the ball an incidental and often unnecessary item.

plenty of chance to see their favourites in action. The programme is as follows:—

CHRISTMAS DAY

South China v. CAA at Caroline Hill at 4 p.m.

Sing Tao v. Kitchee at the Club Stadium at 4 p.m.

BOXING DAY

Great Britain v. China at the Club Stadium at 3.30 p.m.

SUNDAY

Army v. Police at Sookunpoo at 4 p.m.

Kitchee v. Club at Caroline Hill at 4 p.m.

Eastern v. St. Joseph's at Club Stadium at 4 p.m.

Kwong Wah v. R.A.F. at Boundary Street at 4 p.m.

Navy v. Sing Tao at Navy Ground at 4 p.m.

The big game of the week is undoubtedly the International Charity Match at the Club Stadium on Saturday. Great Britain and China will be represented by strong teams and a really first class encounter is expected.

The Great Britain side is made up of seven Army players, two from the Club, and one each from the Police and R.A.F.

The side looks very well balanced and a lot will depend on how the players knit together.

The ability is there and the backbone of understanding that will come from the fact that many of the players know each other's play. This should make for good team-work.

Armstrong of the Club has been given the honour of captaining the team and, provided he can pass his enthusiasm to the others, he should have the pleasure of leading a side that will never give up trying whatever the fortunes of the game.

The China side is considered by many to be the strongest that could be selected from present local resources and, of course, the players have had plenty of opportunity of playing together before. It will be very interesting to see the duels between Ka Po-keung and Bennett, for on these two may well hang the success or failure of the respective teams, and of course Hau Yung-sang will not have forgotten the tussles he had with left winger Chao when the Army recently defeated Sing Tao on the same ground.

This may turn out to be a close game with the odds slightly in favour of a victory for the Chinese boys, but if the British side clicks into gear quickly we may see a big upset.

BEST LEAGUE GAME?

The Christmas Day clash of Sing Tao and Kitchee looks like being the best League game of the week-end. The Tigers will have to make quick efforts to wipe out the

memory of their poor display against South China and a victory over Kitchee would be just the tonic they require.

Kitchee crashed badly against Eastern on Sunday and their recent displays cannot give them a lot of hope of winning this game, but there has been so much inconsistency among local teams that unexpected results are becoming common.

However I think that we shall see the tigers back on the winning trail, but only just.

South China should have little trouble in disposing of CAA, although the Athletic surprised everyone last week with a sound victory over Kwong Wah. Nevertheless it looks like the Champions all the way.

It is hard to say which of the five games due to take place on Sunday is going to be the best. My own preference is for the meeting of Navy and Sing Tao at Causeway Bay.

The Sailors have recently added new blood to their line-up and if Allen and Peas are going to be available regularly they will make a big difference to the boys in blue.

JUST THE SIDE

The Navy with their rollicking type of game are just the side to upset the Tigers and I expect this to be a much closer game than might have been expected a week or two ago. On form my vote goes to the Sing Tao eleven, but they will have to be ready to face a tough challenge from the points.

Kitchee versus Club is another game of exactly the same type. On one hand we have the polished Chinese team and on the other the more direct, but more profitable, tactics of the Club. The Happy Valley boys will have benefited from their victory against Navy and this match may well bring them another point.

Eastern, after their fine display last week against Kitchee, look to be assured winners against St. Joseph's, and probably by a clear margin of several goals.

The Army hit rock bottom last week and will be anxious to maintain their high position in the League by gaining two points from the Police at Sookunpoo. These teams have met twice this season and each has a victory over the other. If the soldiers are back to top form they should win this rubber match.

The last game on the programme brings together Kwong Wah and R.A.F. If Gilbey can inspire the side as he did against the Army, the Airman points to their total.

This week's Talking Points: The two teams selected to represent the Colony in the first and second games against Pegasus had a trial match this week at Caroline Hill to iron out any playing field difficulties and to plan any Pegasus tactics — and all this without the official coach who is in Taiwan with the Referees' Team.

LEAGUE CRICKET AVERAGES

FIRST DIVISION

BATTING

(Qualification—150 runs)

	Inns.	N.O.	H.S.	Runs	Aver.
T. A. Pearce (Scorpions)	0	2	79	200	50
G. A. Souza (CCC)	10	1	111	440	48.9
A. R. Kitchell (IRC)	9	4	58	235	47
G. N. Gosano (Recreio)	8	2	87	217	30.2
Lt. De Cruz (Army)	9	3	90	215	35.0
H. Owen-Hughes (Scorpions)	8	2	37	210	35
Surg. Lt. Millar (Navy)	7	1	60	198	33
I. L. Stanton (Scorpions)	9	2	91	229	32.7
Lt. Farmer-Wright (Army)	8	0	98	217	31
Lt. Agar (Navy)	5	0	86	152	30.4
P. Wood (KCC)	10	1	54	250	28.4
A. T. Lee (KCC)	9	3	07	105	25.8
L. G. Gosano (Recreio)	8	1	79	179	25.6
A. E. Noronha (Recreio)	8	1	79	179	25.6
Surg. Comm. Pearson (Navy)	8	1	58	170	23.1
R. W. Franklin (Optimists)	9	0	69	219	24.3
J. C. Koh (IRC)	10	1	78	207	23
LAC Armstrong (RAF)	9	2	75	158	22.8
P. V. Dodge (KCC)	10	0	88	225	22.5
L. Kilbee (Optimists)	9	0	52	188	20.9
Cpl. West (RAF)	10	0	57	208	20.8
LAC Henley (RAF)	9	1	40	151	18.9
A. K. Markar (IRC)	9	0	43	102	18
Lt. Sadler (IRC)	9	0	75	107	17.9
K. Y. Mohan (CCC)	11	3	35	199	17.8
H. P. Mader (CCC)	11	0	35	173	15.8

BOWLING

(Qualification—15 wickets)

	O.	M.	R.	W.	Average
Lt. Cpl. Dowling (Army)	80.8	16	257	41	6.2
K. G. Spink (Optimists)	83.3	19	237	30	7.9
Ldg. Sig. Sims (Navy)	36.1	9	138	15	9.2
A. P. Pereira (Recreio)	77.2	11	244	20	12.2
G. N. Gosano (Recreio)	88.2	8	371	30	12.4
A. B. Short (Navy)	65.2	4	207	16	12.9
T. P. Mohan (Optimists)	65.2	13	222	16	13.1
Flt. Sgt. Horsham (RAF)	69.5	2	568	27	13.3
G. A. Souza (CCC)	65.2	11	202	15	13.4
B. Carnell (KCC)	65.6	4	248	17	14.0
I. L. Stanton (Scorpions)	60.5	5	309	21	14.7
R. E. Lee (KCC)	60	4	283	16	17.7
J. C. Koh (IRC)	77.4	8	396	22	18
F. J. Billimoria (CCC)	86.3	3	325	18	18.1
S. M. Teh (HKU)	85.1	10	416	10	21.9

SCOTTISH SPORTS SUMMARY

Glasgow Celtic To Play Hungary's Champion Team

By "MAC"

Honved, the Budapest club which supplied seven players to the Hungarian side which beat England at Wembley, have accepted an invitation to play Glasgow Celtic. The match is likely to take place at the beginning of next season.

Celtic hoped to stage the fixture this season, but Honved are unable to fit it in until after the World Cup.

Said a spokesman of the club, "Our Championships end at the end of this month. From January 1, there will be no more club business and everybody will be preparing for the great World Cup football tournament. No club will be allowed to accept invitations for touring."

When Honved do come to Parkhead they are unlikely to find the usual style of British soccer opposing them.

Celtic have adopted a new training schedule. Players report mornings and afternoons with 90 per cent of the emphasis on ball work.

They believe that the days of the stopper centre-half are numbered. When they have progressed sufficiently they plan to switch to a completely attacking centre-half and base their tactics on all-out offence.

Say the British management, "We are making a serious attempt to revolutionise the game which, in Scotland, has become stodgy."

A public appeal for funds to send a Scottish athletic team to the Empire Games, which begin at Vancouver on July 30, has been launched in Glasgow and Edinburgh. £28,000 is needed.

When a team went to the New Zealand Games three years ago the necessary £25,000 was subscribed without making a public appeal. This year, however, it is felt that, with more needed and money scarcer, it will be difficult to raise funds on subscriptions alone.

Leith Athletic, the club without a team, will definitely play their Scottish Cup first-round tie at Fraserburgh on January 30.

The former "C" Division side, who withdrew from the League competition owing to losing £22,000 last season, entered the Cup hoping for an away draw against one of the big clubs and the share of a big prize. This

arrangement, he hopes, will allow him to play not only in the Scottish tournaments, but also in the British competitions, which are confined to PGA members.

Hilbert he has been barred from PGA membership because (a) he works at an indoor golfing school in Glasgow and (b) he was not attached to a professional golf club. Now, however, PGA members are permitted to undertake indoor coaching, and Hector hopes his Egyptian job will make him eligible for the association.

Patrick Thistle, who will lose left-winger Jimmy Walker to the United States in February, may also find another of their players going overseas. Centre forward Alex Stott has received an offer from ex-Dundee team-mate Alf Boyd inviting him to join him in South Africa.

Says Stott, "I've no wish to leave Scotland, but it seems to me a good offer to turn down."

(London Express Service)

CAIRO APPOINTMENT

Hector Thompson, Scottish Professional Golf Champion, is to take up an appointment with the Gezira Club, near Cairo. He expects to stay in Egypt until March, return to Scotland in the summer, then go back to Egypt.

This arrangement, he hopes, will allow him to play not only in the Scottish tournaments, but also in the British competitions, which are confined to PGA members.

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(London Express Service)

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

SIXTH RACE MEETING

(To be held under the Rules of the Hong Kong Jockey Club)
Friday 1st and Saturday 9th January, 1954.

THE PROGRAMME WILL CONSIST OF 18 RACES

The First Bell will be rung at 11.30 a.m. on the 1st Day and the First Race run at 12.00 Noon. The 15 min interval is after the Fourth Race (1.30 p.m.). On the 2nd Day the First Bell will be rung at 1.30 p.m. and the First Race run at 2 p.m.

The Secretary's Office at Alexandra House will close at 10 a.m. on the 1st Day and at 11.45 a.m. on the 2nd Day.

MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE

NO PERSON WITHOUT A BADGE WILL BE ADMITTED.

All persons MUST wear their badges prominently displayed throughout the meeting.

Admission Badges at \$10.00 each per day are obtainable through the Secretary on the written or personal introduction of a Member, such member to be responsible for all visitors introduced by him.

Timings will be obtainable at the Club House if ordered in advance from the No. 1 Boy (Tel. 72811).

NO CHILDREN will be admitted to the Club's premises during the Meeting. For this purpose a Child is a person under the age of seventeen years. Western standard.

PUBLIC ENCLOSURE

The price of admission will be \$3.00 each per day payable at the Gate.

Any person leaving the Enclosure will be required to pay the requisite fee of \$3.00 in order to gain re-admission.

MEALS AND REFRESHMENTS will be obtainable in the RESTAURANT.

SERVANTS

Servants must remain in their employer's boxes except for passing through on their duties. They may on no account use the Betting Booths in the Members' Betting Hall.

CASH SWEEPS

The cost of a Through Ticket is \$30.00. Through Tickets reserved for this meeting but not paid for by 10 a.m. on Thursday, 31st December, will be sold and the reservation cancelled for future meetings.

Cash Sweep Tickets on the last race of the 1st Day (1st January) at \$2.00 each may be obtained from the Cash Sweep Offices at—Queen's Building, (Chater Road), 5, D'Aguiar Street and 382 Nathan Road, during normal office hours and until 10 a.m. on that day.

Tickets for the Special Cash Sweep on the Pearce Memorial Cup scheduled to be run on 30th January, 1954, are now available. The cost of each ticket is \$2.00.

TOTALISATOR

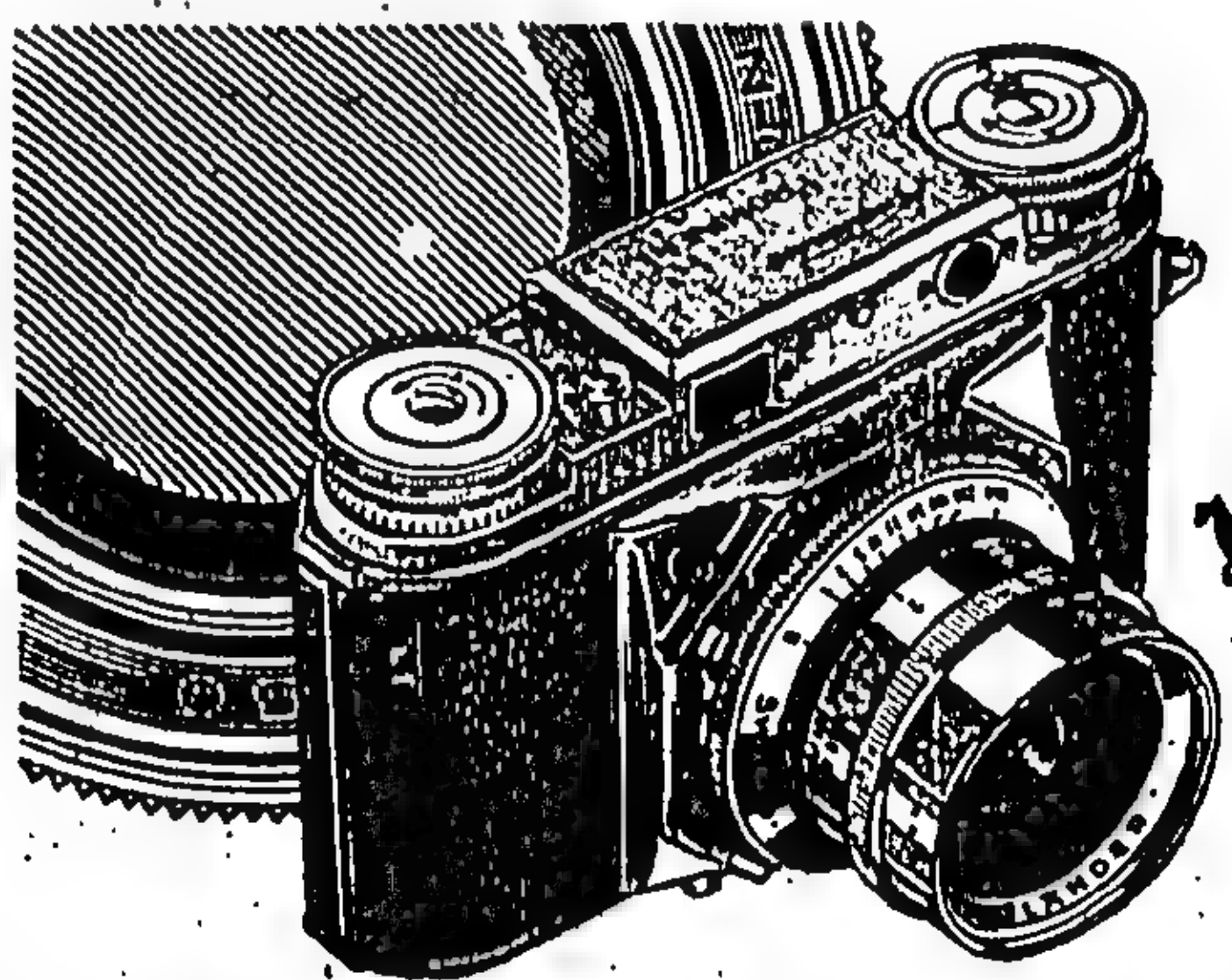
Backers are advised not to destroy or throw away their tickets until after the "all clear" signal has been exhibited.

ALL WINNING TICKETS AND TICKETS FOR REFUNDS MUST BE PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT AT THE RACE COURSE ON THE DAY TO WHICH THEY REFER, NOT LATER THAN ONE HOUR AFTER THE TIME FOR WHICH THE LAST RACE OF THE DAY HAS BEEN SCHEDULED TO BE RUN.

PAYMENT WILL NOT BE MADE ON TORN OR DISFIGURED TICKETS.

Bookmakers, Tie Tac men, etc. will not be permitted to operate within the precincts of the Hong Kong Jockey Club.

By Order of the Stewards,
H. MISA,
Secretary.



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\$50,000 WOULD TEMPT "LITTLE MO" TO TURN PROFESSIONAL

By BRUCE HARRIS

London. Turn lawn tennis promoter, guarantee Maureen Connolly (alias "Little Mo") 50,000 dollars (about £16,600) and Wimbledon will know her no more. Her skill will be yours to command for professional engagements.

For that sum—more than £5,000 more than Britain's Prime Minister is paid for a year's work and responsibility—she would throw up the chance of surpassing the eight-Wimbledons record of Helen Wills Moody.

My informant, newly arrived from America, is Miss Mary Hardwick (Mrs Charles Hare). She and her husband, although English, live in Chicago because his work is there.

Both have played with distinction at Wimbledon. They

will spend Christmas in England. No. 1 lawn-tennis promoter in the USA is Jack Kramer, Wimbledon Champion of 1947.

Kramer thinks 50,000 dollars are a few too many, and so "Little Mo" will remain an

amateur at least for another season.

BETZ BEST?

"Kramer might find it worth while to pay this sum if any of her present rivals could give Maureen a close game, but the next best, Doris Hart and Shirley Fry, have small hope of beating her," says Miss Hardwick. "To attract the customers—and their money—there must be a tussle."

There is only one other player who might beat the Champion—Pauline Betz, already a professional, who won at Wimbledon in 1946.

"She is a clever, steady strategist. I think she would give as good as she took."

Miss Hardwick, who knows Maureen Connolly well, says she does not believe the 19-year-old star will be content to go on winning Wimbledon for an endless series of years.

"She has other interests. She is engaged to a young naval officer. She is deeply interested in horses."

ACTIVE MIND

"Her mind is too active for her to content herself with doing the same thing indefinitely. I don't think you will find her striving at Wimbledon every year up to the age of 30 or more, as Helen did."

Another tip from Miss Hardwick: Tony Trabert, winner of the U.S. Championship, will come to Wimbledon next summer. If he wins, he will follow Kramer, Budge, Gonzales, Sedgman and the others into the professional ranks—as well he may, for more than one of these has become a wealthy man through professional lawn tennis.

—(London Express Service)



"We'd better beat it—Joe's just sent up two distress rockets—that means the favourite's won."

—London Express Service

SPORTING SAM

By Reg. Wootton



International Softball Series Starts On Boxing Day

By "SNOOPER"

China, reigning champions in the International Softball Series, should celebrate Boxing Day with a comfortable win over the "Hongkong Philippines" in the first round clash scheduled at 2 p.m. on Saturday. The nine Chinese softballers picked by coach C. C. Lee from three teams—Pandas, South China and the Chinese Athletic Association—have already advertised their form by their displays in League games and have been confidently backed to trounce the local Filipinos by at least half a dozen runs.

At the request of the Philippine Amateur Athletic Federation, Fred Diesta, representative of the Philippines squad, is calling his team the "Hongkong Philippines."

Mr Diesta told me yesterday that in order to make it clear that his team is not truly a representative Philippine side, he has acceded to the PAAF request.

China, last year's winners, stronger than ever, will have an all-star team. The Chinese will have the best batting attack in the Series, containing shortstop Y. S. Liang of the Pandas, left fielder Lam Leung-ping of the CAA, second baseman Wally Ma of the Pandas and catcher Raymond Tso of the Pandas.

Other players chosen who have given proof of their skill are pitcher Jackie Wei of the Pandas, first baseman C. M. Tsang of the CAA, third baseman Seldon Ma of the CAA, centre fielder "Showboat" Leo Poon-hong of the CAA and right fielder Peon of South China.

NEGOTIABLE

Based on this all-round strength of the Chinese team, I rate the Hongkong Philippines prospects of an upset victory as negligible.

It was suggested to include K. T. "Rabbit" Leung, recognised as one of the leading shortstops in the Colony, in China's opening game, and the suggestion grew out of his consistent League displays. It will be between Y. S. Liang or "Rabbit" Leung at shortstop and there is little to choose between them in fielding. But in the batting department, Liang is streets ahead of Leung and his inclusion in the team will not doubt receive favourable response from all circles. Liang, last year's winner of the Most Valuable Player award, has been given the honour of captaining this year's China outfit. China beat the USA by 12-5 in the final last year.

Fred Diesta is expected to start Tony Rey against China on Saturday. Rey has shown distinct promise in his League performances for the P.I. Dodgers and should be prepared to lead the full distance for the Philippines but will have to produce top pitching form to hold down the Chinese heavy hitters. Supporting him behind the plate will be "Sonny" Azavedo who must be an automatic choice on his current good form.

Roberto Viera has improved and stands an excellent chance of being posted as first. No decision has been reached concerning the second baseman but it appears that Tony Tavares will be given first preference over Jerry Morales and Saco Delgado.

David Mallig is likely to play at third though there is a possibility that Eustacio Barros may be fielded at the eleventh hour.

It is difficult to see anyone replace shortstop Onofre Souza who has been a conspicuously prominent figure for the P.I. Dodgers in the Senior "B" League.

Of the outfielders, Alex Eusebio at left field, Fred Diesta himself at centre field and Blas Despa at right field appear automatic selections.

Although the Philippines are not expected to topple the highly-reputed Chinese team, they are quite capable of taking two runs off China. But they are assured of a grand chance of a practice session in preparation for their all-important round League game against Bill Silva's potential champions, the Delawares, on Sunday.

USA v. PAKISTAN

The USA will be a strong entry in the International Series with key men like Heidemann at first base, Armstrong at second base, Claude Fugh at shortstop, Jack Beckwith at centre-field and Wheeler at right-field expected to pave the way to a victory. The USA battery will be furnished by the USS Cockrell and much will depend on their performance.

While the USA softballers are stronger in the batting department, they are also equal to Pakistan in fielding and if they can produce their good finishing power, a win is almost a certainty.

The Pakistan camp is headed by Benny Omar, one of the leading third basemen in the Colony. Other prominent players are Jindoo Hussain and the Ismail brothers.

Portugal and Great Britain have drawn byes in the first round. The Ladies' International Series will commence on New Year's Day with Portugal and China, vying for premier honours.

LEAGUE GAMES

Two Senior "A", two Senior "B" and two Junior League games comprise the softball holiday League programme on Sunday, commencing at 9.30 a.m. Jackie Wei's

Pandas who play the USS Cockrell in the Senior "A" feature game should stay on top and should have little difficulty in extracting maximum points from the sailors.

In the other Senior "A" game, Jindoo Hussain's Saints seem fairly certain of beating the youthful Roxes. Much interest was exhibited in Salle's pitching performance against Chev Tso's South China last week and I am inclined to believe that Hussain will once again give Salle a chance to show his wares against the Roxes on Sunday.

It is understood that members of the Saints' camp have put their squabbles into cold storage after everyone has been given a chance to appear in League games. Among the prominent players who were benched last Sunday were Merne Xavier, Arturo Ozorio and Showboat Ali.

Jindoo Hussain can look forward without undue anxiety to better team spirit among his players and has been given the assurance that the "domestic" troubles are dying down.

The Saints, fresh from their 11-1 victory over the Caroliners, are expected to maintain their winning form and should win by a good number of runs.

Two entertaining Senior "B" tussles between the Delawares and Dodgers and between the Pandas and Wildfires should produce good ball fare for the holiday crowd in the Sunday afternoon games.

GRUDGE BATTLE

In a return grudge battle, the Dodgers will be reinforced by the inclusion of Roberto Baptista, formerly of the Saints, and Cheddy Pedraza, ex-Red Sox player. The Dodgers, however, have been hard hit by the departure of their centre-fielder, Paul Boulet.

Diesta has also decided to reshuffle his line-up against the Delawares. Danny O'Connor will be assigned to first base and Manuel Nunes to guard the hot corner. The battery will comprise the combination of pitcher Tony Rey and catcher Tony Tavares. Outfielders are Eusebio, David Viera and Charlie Curry. Onofre Souza will be seen in his regular position as shortstop.

It will be recalled that the Dodgers lodged a protest against the hitherto undefeated Delawares in the seventh inning in their first round clash, but at a meeting of the Council of the Hongkong Softball Association it was decided to overrule the objection.

Bill Silva's Delawares, who sustained their first setback at the hands of Bob Surman's Americans last Sunday, have awaited this return encounter with much anxiety. The threat to their Championship aspirations is still there and with the Pandas and the Wildfires hot on their heels, the Delawares cannot afford to drop this crucial tilt.

After his disastrous two-inning pitching performance last week, Junior Pomeroy is not likely to pitch against the Dodgers and Gogo Santos, in all likelihood, will do mound work. A win for the Delawares will mainly depend on infield play. A prolific number of infield fumbles contributed to their downfall against the Americans last week-end.

Another close and exciting game should be seen between Jimmy Kennedy's Pandas and Jack Carrivick's Wildfires. In the Junior League, the Cubs are favoured to beat the Chinese Athletic Association second team and the Maunses should start strong favourites to account for the Pandas.

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(YES, DEAR)

WE'LL MIND THE HANDLE-ON THE FRONT DOOR—I'VE JUST PAINTED IT

..... OH! YOU KNOW.....

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AUTUMN AND I'M STILL STRIVING TO CLEAN UP AND MY HUSBAND'S NO HELP!

I WONDER IF I COULD BORROW YOUR CARPET BEATER?

CERTAINLY WHEN HE GETS BACK WITH THE SHOPPING

Not so dusty

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 "ANCHISES" Liverpool & Glasgow 13th Jan. 14th Jan.
 "CLYTONUS" Liverpool & Dublin 22nd Jan. 23rd Jan.
 "ASTYANAX" Genoa, Rotterdam, Amsterdam, London & Hamburg 24th Jan. 25th Jan.

Scheduled sailings from Europe
 Sails
 "ANCHISES" Sailed 20th Dec. 21st Dec.
 "CLYTONUS" do 21st Dec. 22nd Dec.
 "ASTYANAX" do 22nd Dec. 23rd Dec.
 "PERSEUS" do 23rd Dec. 24th Dec.
 "ANCHISES" do 24th Dec. 25th Dec.
 "CLYTONUS" do 25th Dec. 26th Dec.
 "ASTYANAX" do 26th Dec. 27th Dec.
 "PERSEUS" do 27th Dec. 28th Dec.
 "ANCHISES" do 28th Dec. 29th Dec.
 "CLYTONUS" do 29th Dec. 30th Dec.
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the BOYS and GIRLS PAGE

Tied-Up Gifts for Carollers

Who is going to entertain the carollers this Christmas season? If it is your turn, make it a kitchen party with hot chocolate, hot penut butter sandwiches, toasted on one side, hard candy, peanuts and popcorn in bowls. Everyone will be hungry, and a kitchen party is warm and informal.

No one wants to play games on the night of carol-singing—the singers have walked and are tired. You could have a grabbag, but Christmas balls are more exciting. The store provides a number of low-priced gifts for such an occasion—pencils, pens, crayons, dainties, candy, chewing gum, scratch pads, miniature puzzles, key chains, etc.

Wrap It Up

Wrap the gift in tissue paper then cover in a thick ball of green or red yarn. Fasten the end string with a gummed Christmas seal. Begin tossing. Any boy or girl may toss his yarn ball to someone else, and the tossing continues until each person has a ball. The yarn is unwound and the gift claimed.

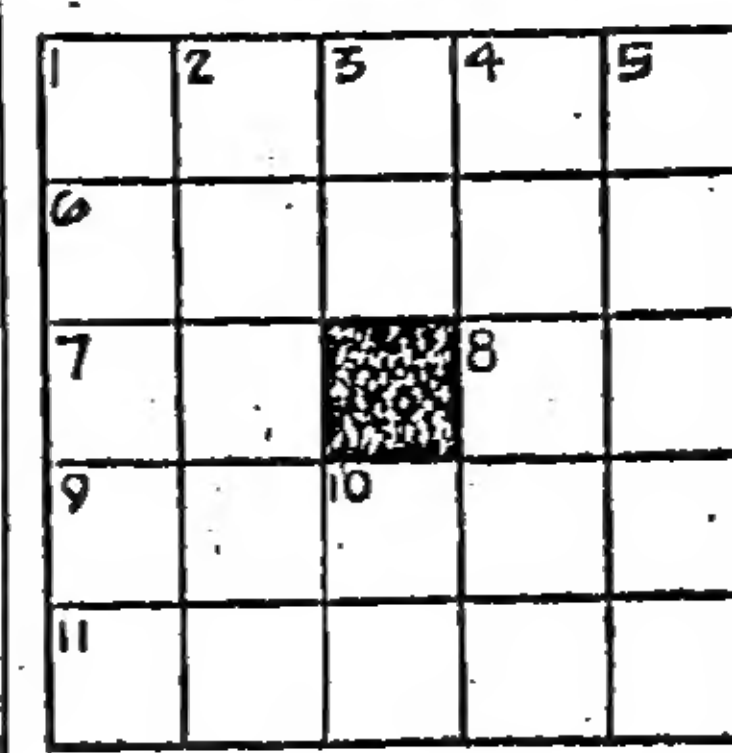
You certainly have a lot of yarn around by this time, so here is a quick game to wind it up. Divide the carollers into two lines. At a whistle start, the leader of each column begins winding his yarn. When his ball is completed, he knots it to the yarn of the player back of him and that boy or girl starts winding. The line that finishes first is the winner. The losers must sing a final carol as a forfeit.



DOT PUZZLE contains a special message for all readers of the Boys and Girls Page. When you've finished connecting the dots, colour red and green.

Christmas Puzzles

Crossword



Across

1 Christmas visitor

2 Holiday

3 Three-toed sloth

4 Street (ab.)

5 Lariat

6 Compound ether

7 Fixed look

8 Zodiacal constellation

9 Compass point

10 Slip

11 Preposition

DOWN

1 Fixed look

2 Zodiacal constellation

3 Compass point

4 Slip

5 Preposition

Yule Scramble

Straighten out this statement about Christmas by putting the words into their proper order. Claus as in as in Father England Pere France, known Christmas and Noel Santa

Christmas Diamond

The YULE LOG is burned at Christmas and provides the centre for this word diamond. The second word is "a groove"; third "regulations"; fifth "relates"; and sixth "a distress signal." Complete the diamond:

Y

U

L

O

G

Yuletide Mix-Ups

These strange sentences contain three facts about Christmas. You'll find them by rearranging the letters in each line correctly:

PEN SET STIRS CHARMS

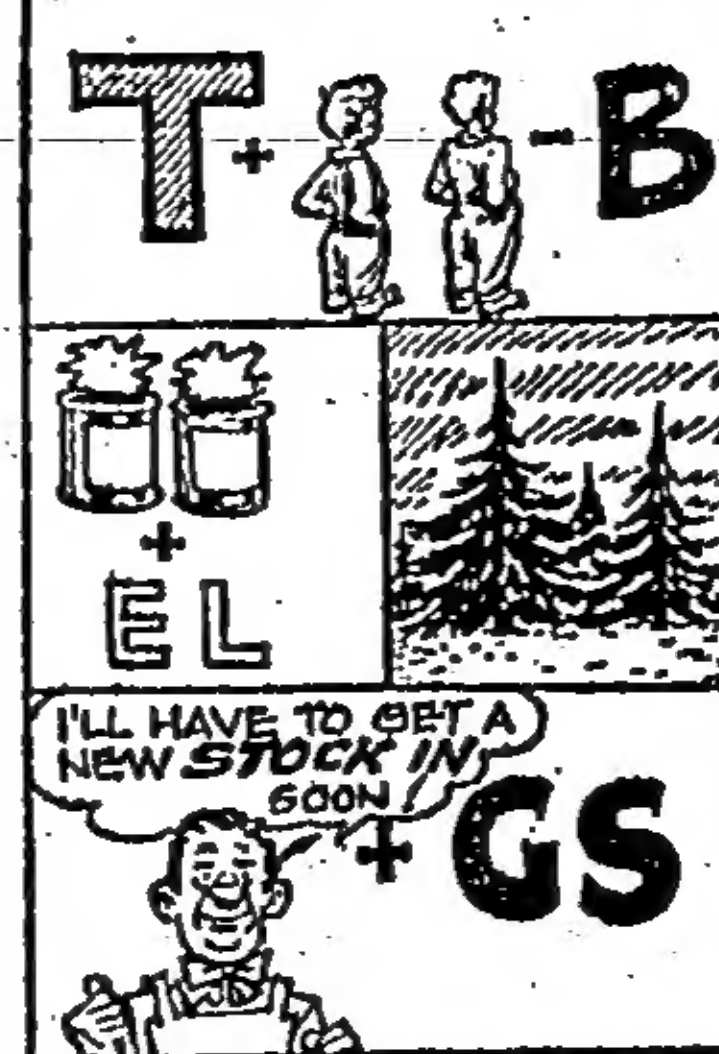
SEAT SINNER HEAD

THIN LAME DOG NEAT

COOP FORE WOEL

Christmas Rebus

You can find four items about Christmas hidden in this rebus very easily if you use the words and pictures to your best advantage:



Yuletide Word Hunt

From the letters in YULETIDE make as many words of four or more letters as you can. We have found 20 such words. They are ordinary words and you should know them all.

No plurals are allowed, and no past-tense words like TIED or EYED. Of course no letter except E can be used more than once in a single word.

Give yourself five points for each word you get. So if you got our 20, or any others we missed to make 20, your score will be 100.

Happy Yuletide hunting.

Solutions on Page 20

Rupert's New Year Adventure—3



Yuletides Games Give Fun

CHRISTMAS comes but once a year, so make the most of it. Here are some new games to play, in case you decide to have the gang over to help trim the tree or practise singing carols.

Tell It to Santa: All players but one form a circle. The extra player is Santa, who takes his place in the centre of the ring. Santa points to any player, saying, "and what do you want for Christmas," adding any name he wishes. That is, he may point to Joan and say "Vincent" or "Allen." Santa then starts to count to 10. The other player must answer with a gift-word starting with the first letter of the name mentioned. If Santa has said "Allen" the player gives a word starting with A (apple for instance) before Santa calls 10, or drops out of the game. About three times around the circle is long enough for this game.

Carol Cut-Up: This is a game for two teams. Make two lists like the one below. If you can use a typewriter type the titles in capitals, double-spaced. Or print the titles in large letters. Then cut all the words apart, keeping each set separate. To play, give one set of cut-up carols to one team, and the other to the team number two. The words can be placed in the centre of a table, for each team, or on the floor. At the word go, players try to re-build the carol titles. The team to finish first, wins.

Use this list: 1—Silent Night. 2—Away In A Manger. 3—Oh Come All Ye Faithful. 4—It Came Upon A Midnight Clear. 5—Hark The Herald Angels Sing. 6—Oh Little Town of Bethlehem. 7—We Three Kings of Orient Are. 8—Oh Christmas Tree. 9—The First Noel. 10—Joy To The World.

Santa's Pack Puzzle: Before party time, fill an empty pillow slip with from 12 to 15 items. A good assortment could include a diary, fountain pen, mechanical pencil, pair of bedroom slippers, necktie, compact, box of statuary, doll, teddy bear, rattle, checker board, toy car, plane or truck, necktie, lapel pin, ring, etc. Choose anything which could be a gift. Tie the top of the pillow slip.

To play, Santa's pack is passed from one player to another. Players are each allowed one minute in which to feel the items and try to guess what they are. After a player has passed the pack on, he lists as many gifts as possible. The person who lists the most correct answers is the winner.

Bell Ringing: For this you will need three small bells. Plastic, bell-shaped tree ornaments, or paper, stand-up ones, are fine. Stand the bells on the floor about four inches apart. Players take turns trying to ring the bells with an embroidery hoop, from a distance of five inches. Each player gets three tosses and may try for any of the bells. The player scoring the most points is the champion bell-ringer.

CHRISTMAS CENTREPIECE

Lay Christmas greens on the centre of a large sheet of aluminium foil. Core some red apples so that they will hold tall tangles. Polish the apples and lay them in a group at the centre of the greens.

Lay bowls here and there among the apples. To make the bells, wrap paper cups with aluminium foil and insert balls of aluminium wrap for clappers. Tie the clappers in place with red and green ribbons.

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